HISTORY
OF
BENDIGO.

G. MACKAY.

1101

VIEW OF PALL MALL, BENDIGO (THE FOREST CITY) IN 1891.

THE

HISTORY OF BENDIGO,

BY

GEORGE MACKAY,

JOURNALIST.

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MDCCCXCI.

"Like leaves on trees the race of man is found,
Now green in youth, now withering on the ground ;
Another race the following spring supplies,
They fall successive, and successive rise ;
So generations in their course decay ;
So flourish these, when those have passed away.

—*Pope's Translation of Homer.*

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PREFACE.

THE volume which I purpose introducing to the reader with these few prefatory remarks is the result of over four years' careful examination of various records, chiefly in the shape of files of the *Bendigo Advertiser*. As that journal did not carry me back beyond the year 1853, I was under the necessity of obtaining information about 1851, 1852, and part of 1853 from other sources. The task was easy with my dear and much lamented friend and journalistic chief, Mr. ROBERT ROSS HAVERFIELD, at my elbow, and I may here record how grateful I feel for the assistance and encouragement which he so willingly supplied. He must always be remembered as one of the worthiest of many worthy old Bendigonians.

Readers who honor me by a perusal of this work will perceive that the first eight chapters deal with the general history of Bendigo, from the gold discovery in 1851 down to the present day; chapters nine, ten, and eleven are devoted to an account of Mining Development; chapters twelve and thirteen to Politics; and chapter fourteen to matters Municipal. Thereafter follow chapters on Water Supply, Journalism, Public Institutions, the Churches, Amusements, Agriculture and Viticulture, and lastly on Local Industries.

I have found facts and events besetting me in my investigations in such battalions that I have had no occasion to draw on my imagination, or to "adorn the tale." The narrative is plain and unvarnished.

The work of compiling it was undertaken in consequence of repeated complaints by old Bendigonians that there was no reliable account of a district which had contributed so much to the prosperity of the colony; and whatever demerits the volume may possess in other respects, its accuracy can at least be guaranteed.

G. M.

September, 1891.

NOTE.

THE Table which we give on page 88 is not supposed to be complete. It would be difficult, if not impossible, to make it so. The Table is intended to give an idea of the resources of the district. A few companies were inadvertently omitted from the list, however, and it had gone to Press before the omission was discovered. The following are the companies referred to (the figures are approximate) :—

Company.	Dividends to 31st June, 1891.	Called up Capital.
	£	£
Johnson's Reef Gold Mines	211,000	72,000
Victory and Pandora	170,000	60,000
Catherine Reef	86,000	49,000
Shenandoah	60,000	11,800
Old Chum	61,762	32,725
New Chum Railway	54,411	26,844
Duchess of Edinburgh	16,200	7,200
Eureka Extended	17,625	7,500
Victoria Quartz (since 1885)	17,200	4,800

The United Whip and Jersey, which has no special record as a company, represents an amalgamation of some of the richest claims of the early days. There were thirteen of these claims, and they raised amongst them as much as 291,600 ozs. of gold, valued at £1,166,400. The ground of the Victoria Quartz Company was also remarkably rich in the early days.

Since our mining chapters went to Press, there have been some new developments in the district. The Great Extended Hustlers' Company has had increasing yields, and at present is working some rich stone at the 730 feet level, which was formerly included in the ground held by Messrs. Latham and Watson.

G. M.

September, 1891.

CONTENTS.

	PAGE
CHAPTER I.—THE GOLD DISCOVERY	1
CHAPTER II.—DIGGER HUNTING	8
CHAPTER III.—THE LAW AND ITS ADMINISTRATION	17
CHAPTER IV.—ANTI-LICENSE AGITATION AND LAYING OUT OF THE TOWN	23
CHAPTER V.—PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT	31
CHAPTER VI.—PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT—CONTINUED	40
CHAPTER VII.—FROM THE DUKE OF EDINBURGH'S VISIT TO MR. MCLACHLAN'S RETIREMENT	47
CHAPTER VIII.—SANDHURST (BENDIGO) AS A CITY	54
CHAPTER IX.—MINING DEVELOPMENT	64
CHAPTER X.—MINING DEVELOPMENT—CONTINUED	74
CHAPTER XI.—MINING DEVELOPMENT—CONTINUED	82
CHAPTER XII.—POLITICAL	95
CHAPTER XIII.—POLITICAL—CONTINUED	108
CHAPTER XIV.—MUNICIPAL	122
CHAPTER XV.—WATER SUPPLY	131
CHAPTER XVI.—JOURNALISM	142
CHAPTER XVII.—PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, ETC.	148
CHAPTER XVIII.—PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—CONTINUED	156
CHAPTER XIX.—THE CHURCHES	166
CHAPTER XX.—AMUSEMENTS	171
CHAPTER XXI.—AGRICULTURE AND VITICULTURE	176
CHAPTER XXII.—CONCLUSION	182
APPENDIX	191

LIST OF ILLUSTRATIONS.

PALL MALL, BENDIGO, IN 1891 ... ... FRONTISPIECE

PALL MALL, BENDIGO, IN 1855 ... ... CHAPTER V.

ALEXANDRA FOUNTAIN, CHARING CROSS ... CHAPTER VIII.

TOWN HALL, EAGLEHAWK ... ... CHAPTER VIII.

LORD SALISBURY'S LODGINGS IN 1852 ... ... CHAPTER VIII.

BRUCE'S CRUSHING MACHINE (IN 1857) ... ... CHAPTER IX.

GARDEN GULLY CRUSHING BATTERY ... ... CHAPTER XI.

GENERAL VIEW OF THE CITY IN 1891 ... ... CHAPTER XIV.

POST AND PUBLIC OFFICES ... ... CHAPTER XVII.

MASONIC HALL ... ...CHAPTER XVIII.

ST. MUNGO LINE OF REEF FROM BELMONT MINE ... CHAPTER XXII.

HISTORY OF BENDIGO.

CHAPTER I.

The Gold Discovery.

"Time will run back and fetch the age of gold."
—*Milton.*

1851-2—Bendigo, a part of the Ravenswood Run—"Bendigo"—Discovery of Gold—The Rush—The Diggers' Claims, and their manner of Living—Stuck up in the Bush at Ironbark Hill—Mr. Horne, the First Goldfield Commissioner—Captain Dane—Mr. Cockburn—Mr. Gilbert—Mr. Panton—An Amusing Incident.

NO greater contrast can well be imagined or described than that between the appearance of Bendigo in 1851 and its appearance in 1891. One who had visited the valley of Bendigo prior to October, 1851, and had not set eyes upon it since that eventful year, would scarcely recognise a single feature of the scene, if viewing it to-day. The late Mr. Robert Ross Haverfield, who saw it before the gold discovery, has described the valley of Bendigo in the following words:—

"The flats, carpeted with green grass, were dotted here and there with comely and shady gum-trees, while the creek banks, shaded with wattle, sloped down to a chain of water holes, which, in the spring and winter seasons, and indeed all the year round, before the gold era, contained a good supply of sweet clear water. Down about the now desolate-looking Epsom, the valley wore a really picturesque appearance; the gum-trees were very fine, and the wattle flourished luxuriantly."

The Bendigo valley was part of the Ravenswood run, first discovered and occupied by Mr. Charles Sherrard. That gentleman sold it to Messrs. Heape and Grice, of Melbourne, during whose time the blacks were exceedingly troublesome,

Mr. Grice himself being on one occasion in danger of his life. Messrs. Heape and Grice sold the run to Messrs. Gibson and Fenton, and they held the run, of which the Bendigo Creek, as far as the boundary of the Barnedown run, formed a part, at the time of the gold discovery in 1851. The creek was named after a shepherd, or hutkeeper, in the employ of Mr. Sherrard. This shepherd was known to be an accomplished bruiser, and had been called "Bendigo" after the celebrated English prize-fighter of that name. Thus this part of the Ravenswood run became known as "Bendigo's Creek." Another explanation given by some old residents, is that "Bendigo" is a corruption of "Bandicoot."

It has been settled beyond doubt that gold was first discovered on Bendigo at a place known in 1851 as "The Rocks," at Golden Square; but it is not likely that the question as to who was the discoverer will ever be decided definitely. It has been claimed that a man named Johnston picked up a piece of gold in October, 1851; also, that shepherds in the employ of Messrs. Gibson and Fenton found gold at the locality mentioned; and again it has been claimed that Messrs. Gibson and Fenton were themselves the first discoverers. Mr. Fenton states that they saw the gold in the roots of a large tussock of grass which the wash of the flood waters of the creek had laid bare. Whoever discovered the precious metal, the news spread, and there was a rush, which, however, proved unsuccessful. A few prospectors remained, and did a good stroke for their pains in Golden Gully. In a short time the news of their good luck got wind at Forest Creek, and the second and permanent rush set in. By this time the news of the earlier discoveries at Ballarat and Forest Creek had reached Great Britain, and before many months elapsed thousands of the sons of the old land, and of the population of the neighbouring colonies were flocking to Victoria. The population of the colony rapidly increased from 97,000 in 1851 to 168,000 in 1852, 222,000 in 1853, and 364,000 in 1855.

The valley of Bendigo was changed as if by magic, and after the winter of 1852 almost all of natural beauty that Bendigo had possessed had disappeared, and "Ichabod" had been written on its sadly mutilated face. Persons approaching the diggings were made aware of their vicinity by an incessant discharge of firearms by the diggers, and the continuous ringing of axes on

the butts of the trees. One was thus prepared to meet with scenes of excitement and industry, and there was noise and hurry and bustle enough, goodness knows—an immense waste of energy —a vast useless consumption of gunpowder. It was a stirring scene, with the swarming mass of active, hardy, and vigorous young men who had been driven to the colony by the fever into which the discovery of gold had thrown them. Among that splendid band of pioneers were men of all grades of life—the artisan, the lawyer, the doctor, and even the nobleman, mingling together in the common throng, striving for the possession of the precious metal which was to secure to them wealth and fortune. And amongst all these mad, wild, novel scenes, the abominable dust fiend held high revelry. Earth and clay, reduced to an impalpable powder, lay on the roads ankle deep at least, and the slightest puff of wind raised it in blinding clouds. In the midst of all this dust and heat, and clamour and confusion, it was not a good thing, as can be imagined, to be unable to get a drink of water. But there was little or none on Bendigo in March, 1852, and a very considerable portion of the population were compelled to fly to Bullock Creek, the Sheepwash, and other adjacent water courses. As a natural consequence of the want of water, the heat, the dust, and the unaccustomed hardships and exposure, sickness in various forms was prevalent.

The results of the rush were astounding. Ironbark turned out a vast quantity of gold, and numerous holes in that gully were appropriately called "jewellers' shops." All the way out to Eaglehawk, Sailors' Gully, and the neighbouring diggings, men were rapidly realising fortunes, which most of them managed as quickly to dissipate. Gold was dug up almost in bucketfuls on Bendigo Flat. Two young men one morning sank a shallow hole at the foot of the first White Hill, and from one pocket in the slate took up 50lb. weight of the precious metal. The White Hills yielded enormously; and some pretty piles were made on Epsom Flats. Those who have only known Bendigo as it now is, will fail to recognise a faithful picture of the district before its invasion by the great army of diggers. An immense amount of work was performed in an incredibly short space of time. Vast areas of ground were turned over to the bed rock, and rifled of their treasures. Whole forests of great ironbark trees, with the dense underwood growing among them, quickly disappeared.

It may be difficult for many to believe that the forest between the First White Hill and our railway station, and, indeed, up to Golden Gully, was so thick and dark that people often lost their way in attempting to get through it, from any one of the points named to another. The range dividing Sandhurst from Ironbark was so densely timbered that no glimpse of the valley of Bendigo could be obtained from it, and many robberies were committed there. Men who ventured to bring their gold into the township, as Sandhurst was then called, did so at great risk. Mr. Joseph Holloway, who used to visit the gullies for the purpose of buying gold from the diggers, was stuck up one evening on Ironbark Hill, but being on horseback he got away, and was fired at twice as he galloped off, though fortunately without effect.

Although to many it may be uninteresting, the general reader may wish to know something of the diggers' claims and their manner of living. The size of claim which each digger was allowed to hold was twelve feet square. Though the area was small, the ground was frequently so very rich that the digger was quite satisfied with its extent. Rich alluvial deposits were usually found on and in the old pipeclay and slate beds under the alluvial drift, from one to twenty feet from the surface. When the hole was "bottomed" the diggers used to drive along the stratum of soil containing the gold. Over the shaft were fastened three poles, straddle legs fashion, tied together at the top, from which hung a block and pulley. The rope was then drawn up, as a general rule, by means of a pole used as a lever, with the fork of a convenient tree as the fulcrum. In some cases there was a windlass instead of a block and pulley, but either of these methods was suitable for the workings, which were generally shallow. The diggers descended the shafts by means of notches in the sides, and were able to run up and down with ease, so expert did they become with practice. As the buckets were filled with washdirt they were hoisted to the surface, and their contents emptied into a big tub, where they were puddled—that is, worked about by means of a spade and water. This process got rid of all the sticky mud, and nothing remained but sand, gravel and gold. This was shovelled into the hopper of the cradle. While the cradle was being rocked, water was poured into the hopper. All the sand and gold passed through the hopper into the receiver below, the pebbles which remained being thrown away.

The residuum was washed in a tin dish at the edge of a pool of water, and in a few minutes, under the hands of a skilful manipulator, nothing but the gold remained. Of course, this description is merely intended for those who do not know the digger's methods of procedure, and it is presumed they will be to a certain extent wiser after reading it. Those who have "been there" before will simply be reminded of the well-known process of gold extraction practised in the early days of the diggings.

The digger's residence was commonly a small calico tent on the slopes of the gully where the claim was, and the area occupied by it was twelve feet by eight. There were many canvas tents and a few log huts, and some had rude chimneys. The furniture consisted of one or two stumps of trees for chairs, while anything in the shape of a box or tea chest served for a table. The bed consisted of a stretcher or bunk made of forked stakes and saplings covered with a rug and a pair or two pairs of blankets. The cooking utensils were few, and intended to wear well. There were two or three tin or pewter plates, spoons, knives and forks (though the latter were not always present). Two or three saucepans, one or two billies, generally completed the list, while a frying-pan was regarded as a luxury. In a party of two or three the work was divided; one would carry the water and chop the wood, another would obtain the chops or steak from the butcher, while a third would meanwhile be busy baking the damper and preparing the meal. The chief food of the digger was mutton and damper. The damper was merely an unleavened cake made of flour and water. The description given of the tent would not apply in all cases. In some cases, the diggers paid more attention to their comfort, and in others, less. The fires were invariably lighted outside the tents, and at night, the effect caused by the fires in all directions was very striking. The men, after the labours of the day, would congregate round the fires, chat with their neighbours, and spend the hours in a variety of ways. The early diggers were succeeded by the puddlers, and at one time there were upwards of 3000 puddling machines on the goldfield.

The separation of Victoria from New South Wales had only taken place a few months previous to the discovery of gold at Bendigo (on the 1st July, 1851), and the Victorian Parliament had been opened by Mr. Latrobe, the Lieutenant-Governor, on the 11th November. The Ballarat diggings had filled

everybody with astonishment just previously, and while the Council was assembling, the Mount Alexander diggings were discovered. These discoveries had the result of upsetting the population, and coincident with the discovery of the Bendigo goldfield there was a great exodus of people from Melbourne and Geelong, while ship-loads of arrivals from the other colonies proceeded at once to the diggings—an example which was followed by the crews of the vessels themselves. In fact the shipping in the bay became almost entirely deserted, and men of all classes in the metropolis left their employment to make their fortunes on the goldfields.

The Executive had taken charge of the goldfields, and some of their first acts were to appoint Commissioners, make a regulated license fee, and establish an escort. There was a chief Commissioner residing in Melbourne, while Commissioners and Assistants were stationed in the various diggings. We have the authority of Mr. Haverfield for stating that Mr. Horne was the first Commissioner appointed to Bendigo. He was succeeded by Captain Dane, who, at the end of six or seven weeks, threw up his appointment, because (as he said) of the utter want of system and organisation on the part of the authorities in Melbourne. Mr. Cockburn was the next, but early in 1852 he was succeeded by Mr. Gilbert. In the words of Mr. Haverfield, "Mr. Gilbert was a thoroughly strict man, but would permit no tyranny. It has been stated that, in several instances in which diggers represented to him that they were unable to pay their license fee (which then amounted to thirty shillings per month) he paid it for them out of his own pocket, and to the great credit of those men, they always repaid him."

Mr. Panton was at this time Assistant Commissioner under Mr. Gilbert, and his great tact and moderation as a Commissioner have frequently been cited as one reason why the diggers of Bendigo did not resort to the extreme measures which resulted so disastrously at Ballarat.

Mr. Haverfield has thus related a story about a digger who was brought before Mr. Gilbert on the heinous charge of not having a license :—

"The prisoner was placed with his back to a low sapling fence, in front of the Commissioner's tent, and the court was held there in the open air.

The man pleaded guilty; but requested to be permitted to ask one question.

'Certainly,' replied Mr. Gilbert, 'What is it?'

'Well, sir, are the police allowed to fire at a man who hasn't a license, if he runs away?'

'Most decidedly not;' replied Mr. Gilbert in an emphatic manner.

'Then I'll bid you good morning, sir,' said the other; and, vaulting over the fence, he flew down the Camp Hill as fast as his legs would carry him, and was out of sight, before the police, taken by surprise, started in pursuit.

Mr. Gilbert laughed immoderately. 'The fellow deserves to get off,' he said, 'Let him go.'"

CHAPTER II.

Digger Hunting.

"We must be free or die, who speak the tongue
That Shakspeare spake."
—*Wordsworth.*

1852—The Police Force—Digger Hunting—Sly-Grog Selling—What became of the Confiscated Property?—Adulterated Liquor—The Unknown Fate of many Diggers—Murders, Outrages, Robberies, etc.—The Commissioners' Camp—In the Logs—Bribing the Doorkeeper—The Arch-Villainy of the Police.

WHATEVER may have been said from time to time with reference to the necessity for a license-tax for diggers, nobody may venture to say a word in support of the manner in which the tax was collected, while the fact that the diggers were subjected to it without representation in the Government of the country, was a distinct violation of one of the cardinal principles of taxation. The tax was most unfair in its working. It pressed alike upon the unsuccessful and the successful digger. The man who was barely earning the necessities of existence had to pay the same tax as the man who was working a mine of wealth. For this reason, the duty should have been placed upon the gold, and each would have been in a position to bear a burden in proportion to the extent he was blessed with riches. As the population on the goldfields was a mixture of various nationalities, numerous were the doctrines of freedom and the rights of the people to which expression was given. This circumstance, however, did not militate against the success of the movement in which these different elements joined. They had a common grievance, against which they cried out with one voice. The system of goldfields' management was obnoxious in the extreme.

The Government arrangements were that each digger should pay a license fee of thirty shillings per month for a claim twelve feet square. The Commissioners were empowered to make daily visits accompanied by the police and compel the diggers to show their licenses. Owing to increased disaffection, the police force had to be increased, and the collection of the tax became more rigid than ever. An additional law made it imperative on the diggers to act as special constables, under the penalty of being treated as rogues and vagabonds. "Digger hunting," as it was termed, was carried out with great cruelty, mobs of diggers who had been found without licenses in their possession being literally driven to the camp and subjected to imprisonment for ten days, unless the £5 fine was paid forthwith. When we add to this oppression the absurd and iniquitous system which existed with regard to the sale of spirituous liquors, life on the goldfields was one continual round of oppression and vexation, and it is little wonder the spirit of rebellion grew strong among the population. The state of affairs is so well described by Mr. Haverfield that we cannot do better than quote his own words :—

"It is a matter of historical fact which it would be absurd and impossible to attempt to disguise, that the conduct of the officials generally toward the digging population was intolerably overbearing. The chief duties of the force on the diggings were the collection of the license-tax and the suppression of sly-grog selling. These were performed in a most objectionable, insolent, and outrageous manner.

"'Digger hunting,' as the search after men who had no license was called, was a favourite amusement of both officers and men, and it was followed up savagely, relentlessly, and with a refinement of cold-blooded cruelty that were not only exasperating, but disgusting in the extreme. Men were chained to trees and logs throughout the blazing heat of day, or the piercing cold of night, whose offences consisted simply in not being able to produce their licenses on demand, although they protested, and their statements were often found to be correct, that they had left these precious documents accidentally at home. But unless they had them in their pockets they were placed under arrest. It is true that many of them had neglected to take out licenses; but some of them pleaded poverty, or represented the impossibility of leaving their claims sufficiently long to enable them to visit the camp. It did not matter. They were all subjected alike to the indignity of being treated as criminals. Little wonder was it that disaffection was engendered to a dangerous degree.

"Not only was the sale of spirits, wine and beer, prohibited, but no one was permitted to have so much as a bottle of any kind of stimulant in his private possession. Seizures of grog were of constant occurrence. A policeman would walk into a man's tent, and carry off a bottle of anything worth

drinking or not worth drinking, that he might find in it; and very lucky indeed was the owner if he got off with the mere loss of it. The chances were that he would be prosecuted for sly grog selling. Innumerable instances occurred, in which tents were pulled down or burned down, and all their contents destroyed, because small quantities of spirits had been discovered in them. The sanctities of domestic life were not respected in the least by those ruffianly police. The sleeping places of women, who (together with their husbands) were innocent of any offence whatever, were invaded at all hours of the night in the most unmanly and inquisitorial manner. Tents were pulled down or unroofed at night (regardless altogether of the state of the weather) in which women and young children were sleeping. Men were beaten and kicked who ventured to expostulate with the perpetrators of these grossly inhuman and most indecent outrages. The police were far more dreaded by peaceable and orderly people than were the thieves and ruffians who lurked about with evil designs in dark places, and about whose doings the public protectors troubled themselves very little.

"Elphinstone, or Sawpit Gully, as it was then called, was the nearest place to Bendigo at which spirituous liquors were allowed to be kept in bulk; and great was the trade that was carried on in smuggling them thence to Forest Creek and Bendigo. In cases of detection, which were frequent, not only the loading but the carts and horses, with everything thereto appertaining, were confiscated. The discovery of a keg of brandy in a load of stores would insure the loss of the whole, whilst the drivers and other persons in charge would be taken into custody, and heavily fined or imprisoned.

"What became of all the property thus appropriated by Her Majesty's Government in Victoria, is a question which has never been satisfactorily answered. There were some sales occasionally of confiscated goods, under the conduct of sergeants of police; but it was believed, and certainly with good reason, that only a small percentage of the property seized was ever submitted to public competition. The general impression was that the bulk of the goods passed into official use. There were those among the officials, we were forced to believe, who lived luxuriously on these cheaply obtained things. We were forced also to believe that there were officials who made a good deal of money out of them. At all events grog did not keep well on the Camp Hill.

"I do not at all overlook the fact that there were numerous grog shanties of a very low character in various parts of Bendigo. But, as a matter of fact, the crusade of the police was directed rather against those which were decently and respectably conducted, than against the haunts of villainy and ruffianism. Clearly, it was safer, and probably more profitable, to invade the former than to attack the latter. There were grog shops everywhere—some of them notoriously under the very eyes of the camp—in which men were drugged and robbed in the most shameful manner. The object of the Government, no doubt, was to check dissipation and crime, but the course taken for this purpose was productive of the opposite effect.

"It was clear that the restriction of the sale of spirits, and of their use by private persons, induced a desire to break the law. And, indulging his inclination for a forbidden pleasure, the unfortunate digger often found himself a serious loser both in pocket and in health. If supposed to have gold or

money about him, he was hocussed by the sly grog sellers ; and when past all useful conversation, was tumbled into a spare tent, known as the dead house, where, after his pockets had been ransacked, he was left to suffer a painful recovery. There can be no doubt that the early death of many a poor fellow was attributable to the abominable system of adulteration, which was carried on to a frightful extent, and in a really murderous manner. Yet, notwithstanding all the known terrible evils of the sly grog system, it was not until May 1854, that any publicans' licenses were issued in this district ; and, to give some idea of official doings at the time, it was currently stated—and there can be no question of the truth of it—the licensees, in addition to their fees, which were pretty heavy, found it necessary to have recourse to 'tip' in order to secure their licenses.

"Those who remember the times of which I am speaking, will not gainsay the assertion, that there was every facility on the Bendigo diggings for the perpetration of all sorts of villainous deeds. The diggers, ever wandering from place to place, made few acquaintances, and when they disappeared from certain localities, they were not missed, and no questions were asked concerning them. Hundreds, in fact, might have been murdered in a month, and no suspicions have been raised. As to police protection, the time of the force was taken up, as I have shown, in quite another way from that of looking after the safety of the friendless diggers. But even if the police had been far more efficient and attentive to their legitimate duties than they were, they would have been unable to have prevented the commission of the numerous outrages, robberies, and murders, which I believe were undoubtedly perpetrated in outlying portions of the field. The police, I admit, could not be everywhere, but they did not try very much to be anywhere, except where it suited their convenience, their avarice, or their vindictiveness. To institute any comparison whatever between those police and the force of the present time would be much like comparing uncultivated savages with decent civilised men.

"On the whole, the official proceedings of those days were such as to make one's blood boil with indignation, or to make it run cold with horror and disgust. I remember a night on which the tent of an intimate friend of mine was torn down, carried off and confiscated, because part of a bottle of brandy had been found in it. It was a splendid bit of canvas, both in quantity and quality, and was lined with green baize ; whilst the floor was carpeted ; and many a pretty trifle in the way of pictures and ornaments decorated this then superior abode. My friend and his mate, with a German gentleman, who was passing the evening with them, and whose singing and guitar playing had attracted the attention of the police, were marched off to the logs on the Camp Hill. Believe me, that after that night there was not a man of that lot, or of the larger lot located on Bendigo Flat, nearly opposite the First White Hill, who knew them, who would not readily have taken up arms against the authorities had actual rebellion taken place."

Reference has been made to the Commissioners' Camp which had been formed on Camp Hill by Commissioner Gilbert. Mr. George Edward Thomson, one of the best authorities with regard

to the early days of Bendigo, in an exhaustive account of the red-ribbon agitation of 1853-4, and of the rise of our political and domestic institutions, has given the following minute description of the camp :—

"The camp, as it is usually styled, occupied an area of ground of about seventy acres in extent, the boundary lines of which faced a row of stores called Camp Street on the south-east ; Commissioners' Gully, now the Upper Reserve, on the north-west ; View Street, then merely a small gully, to the west ; and the road passing the Bendigo Hotel to Barnard Street, to the east. The whole was enclosed by a two-rail fence, but the formation of the surface was very different to what it is now. The present fence facing the Mall was about a chain further in towards the rising ground ; from thence to the upper walk from the View Street entrance the ground was flat, terminating with an abrupt ledge of rock, a continuation of the same reef still existing near the court-house, running through the wood where the master of the High School now has his residence, and continuing nearly to the western boundary. At the base of the rock was the natural channel of the Bendigo Creek, a small portion of which until quite recently was enclosed within the present fernery. The upper ground was reached by two paths, one at View Street, and the other along the same tracks by which the court-house is at present approached. The slope towards Commissioners' Gully has been very little changed, and an entry was practicable at any point. The surface consisted of bare sandstone rock, on which a few ironbark trees struggled for existence, and a few white gums occupied the more congenial soil of the flat. Within this area was the lock-up, built of logs and roofed with bark. The remaining portion was occupied by the police-court, commissioners' quarters, offices for issue of licences, gold receiver, police quarters (mounted and foot), stables for horses, etc., and on the arrival of the troops, tents for them likewise ; the stables were only sheds formed of bark, the rest all canvas. At the north-east corner, the present site of the gaol, was a considerable quantity of hay protected from the weather by a covering, partly of bark, and part canvas."

We have referred already to the tyrannical conduct of the goldfields' officials. The subject, however, is by no means exhausted, and by the light of the description given above of the camp, the reader will probably peruse with additional interest, the following further quotation from the lecture delivered by Mr. Haverfield in 1884 :—

"A short time after the events last mentioned, I was given the opportunity of testing the quality of the 'logs' myself. Our party, consisting of eight, were working in the first White Hill, in a sixty feet hole. I had always been very particular in seeing that all our fellows were regularly provided with licenses as early as possible in the month ; on the fourteenth day of each of which, one was liable to arrest if he could not produce his bit of paper for that month. Now, in those days, we didn't bother much about newspapers ; and

we had been hard at work, and had not heard of the issue of an order, by which every digger was required to be provided with his license on the first day of the month. It was on the twelfth (I remember) that as we were sitting at dinner, at the bottom of the shaft, I remarked that it would be necessary for someone to go up to the Camp next day, and get our licenses renewed. The words were scarcely out of my mouth, when we were hailed from the top. 'Come up and produce your licenses,' cried a voice with a rich touch of the brogue, and his words fell down the shaft like a spoonful of hot burgoo.

"A parley took place, in which I was informed of the new order; so I said to my mates—'I'll go up to the Camp and explain, I know Mr. Panton very well.' They tried to dissuade me, and wanted to go into the drives and barricade them. However, I went up, and on landing was roughly seized by a constable, as if he had captured some very dangerous character; and then, with a dozen others who had been similarly caught, I was marched up to the Camp, under guard of about a score of constables, at the point of the bayonet. We were ranged along the sapling fence, of which I have spoken before, in a row, and kept there for two or three hours, until it suited Mr. Foster's convenience, who was then police magistrate, to hear our cases. I was one of the first taken into the courthouse; and to hear the charge preferred against me by the policeman whose special prey I was considered to be, was something that perfectly astounded my innocent mind. At last he said, 'Please yer worship, if I hadn't been just going down the hole, this man wouldn't have come up.' I hadn't opened my lips before; but now I broke out. 'Please your Worship,' I said, mimicking my prosecutor as well as I could, 'he wasn't game to go down. There are seven men in the hole now, and he daren't go down for the life of him.' That was enough; my bump of prudence, if I've got one, had failed me at a critical moment. 'Put him in the lock-up for four and twenty hours,' cried his Worship, and away I was marched to the logs. My pockets were searched, and I was compelled to open my mouth to have that spacious cavity examined in order to see that I had nothing secreted there. A nugget of gold would have been very acceptable no doubt to the lock-up keeper, but I hadn't one about me. There was a very mixed lot inside. In a short time we heard the police outside making a great noise; and peering through the interstices in the logs, we could see them opening champagne cases, and pretending to demolish the contents. But so far as I could see, nothing was destroyed but the cases. The bottles appeared to be very carefully handled. Presently one fellow knocked off the head of one, and after taking a long drink, splashed the remainder against the logs. 'There's a smell for ye, ye dogs,' he cried out; meaning by 'dogs' us poor helpless bipeds within. In about an hour, I heard the voices of two of my mates outside. They were talking to the lock-up keeper, and I heard them offer him £5 to let me out. This he agreed to do, and the door was opened. As I was passing out, a tall handsome man from within caught me by the shoulder—

"'Pay to let I out, do'ee now,'! he said. 'My zon 'have broke his arm down to White Hills, and he a'nt got nobody to do var'n.' 'Carnish, baintee?' I asked. 'Eese I be.'

"'Well,' I said, 'I be Devonshire. What'll you take?' addressing the lock-up keeper. 'Oh, £1 for him,' he replied, laughing. It was surprising how pleasant a man he was when there was a tip about. The pound was paid, and Cousin Jack walked away with us towards the White Hills, near which we were camped.

"When we reached our tents, I got the fellows to bring me a tub of water, and I stripped, and having had a good wash, I took the clothes I had worn in the logs to the fire, and threw them in. Cousin Jack made a grab at 'em.

"'Oh, don't 'ee burn 'em,' he said. But I put my foot upon them. 'Look here, countryman,' I said, quite grandiloquently, 'I was a good subject of the Queen this morning. To-night I be a rebel!' 'Be'est thee now? Well, I be half a mind to be rebel meself; but I beant got on so vur, as vur to go to burn my clothes.'

"The first act of rebellion I was guilty of was to incite some influential friends of mine in Melbourne to interview the members of the Government, for the purpose of laying my case before them, and whether through their representations or not, I can't positively say, Mr. Foster was sent back very shortly afterwards to his inspectorship of police, from which he had been raised to the bench. I was told by my friends that he had assured the Attorney-General he would have treated me differently if he had known who I was. And I told my friends to reply that that was just what I complained of, viz., that the goldfields magistrates and some other officials thought they might treat a man how they pleased if he was poor or unknown.

"To show what arch-villains some of the police were, allow me to relate to you one brief anecdote:—A man who had been employed on a station in the bush for several years, and had saved a nice little sum of money, came to Bendigo in 1852. He had a wife and three children, and possessed a fine tilted cart and two splendid draught horses. He brought with him a large stock of provisions, and altogether was well provided. He was a steady, industrious fellow, and deserved good luck, if he didn't meet with it. In order to make sure of his money, he buried it in a hole close to his tent, with the cognisance only of his wife. One day, when he was away at work, some men called, the appearance of whom his wife didn't like. They appeared to her to be too curious in their examination of the tent and its surroundings, and, watching them closely, she felt convinced that they had detected the hiding-place of the money. After they were gone, therefore, she dug it up and secreted it in the tent. The scoundrels were watching her all the time, and they soon returned and demanded the 'plant.' She was dreadfully alarmed, but denied all knowledge of a 'plant.' They would take no denial. Finally, they threatened to kill her children, and most shamefully maltreated her, and she was obliged at last to give up the money. Shortly after, her husband returned, and while she was telling him the circumstances a party of police rode up to the tent. Of course, Charley at once told them his trouble, in the fond but vain hope that they would endeavour to recover his money. But they declared that they didn't believe a word of his story, and also informed him that they had come (on information received) to arrest him for sly grog selling, and also as a suspected horse stealer. It was no use his

remonstrating, and his horses having been put to his cart, and his tent burned down, they marched the family off to the logs.

"When they were brought before the court, Charley's wife immediately recognised in the informer one of the men by whom she had been robbed. She informed the magistrate of the fact, and although she was, indeed, vouchsafed a hearing she was not believed, for the Bench was assured that she was a woman of the lowest character. Charley was sentenced to six months' imprisonment for sly grog selling and violently resisting the police, although he had never raised his hand, and his cart and horses and other property were ordered to be confiscated. The wife was discharged, but only, she was told, in merciful consideration for her young children. The poor woman left the court without a shilling in her pocket to buy her children bread. But she made up her mind that she would start at once for the station they had left. By the kindness of persons she met on the way she managed to subsist, but the way was long, and she could make but slow progress with her three children. She arrived one afternoon on the Loddon, and to her consternation found that the river was running and that it was impossible for her to get across. A cold drizzly rain was falling, and she and the little ones were wet to the skin. They had had nothing to eat that day, and the children were crying bitterly from cold and hunger. The poor mother felt broken-hearted. She knelt down and tried to pray. But, worn out with grief, and anxiety, and fatigue, and finding herself unexpectedly cut off from the hospitable home which she knew was at no great distance, it was little wonder that her reason did not sit steadily on its throne. According to her own account, she felt impelled to drown herself and her children. Standing there looking at her shivering little ones through her scalding tears, and hesitating which of them she would throw into the river first, she was startled by a sharp, shrill cry. Turning round, she perceived a young black boy bounding towards her. He was an orphan who had been brought up at the station for which she had been endeavouring to make. He quickly explained to her that he was with a dray, which was returning home from an out station; that they had crossed the river at a shallow place a little above, and that having espied her from the opposite bank, the bullockdriver had sent him down to her. They could see the dray from where they were.

"'No you cry, Mrs. Charley,' said the boy affectionately. 'You all right now—directly.'

"'Bless his dear black face,' she used to say afterwards, in telling her pitiful tale, 'It seemed to me like an angel come down from heaven.'

"Her master interested himself in Charley's case, and, after some trouble, succeeded in procuring his release; and Charley, joyfully returning to his old employ, registered an oath that he would go near the diggings no more.

"The authorities took very little pains to conciliate the population, which was being oppressively taxed in order to maintain them: and although it is anticipating a little, I will give you one practical illustration of their high and mighty proceedings, and contemptuous disregard of the feelings of those whom they were authorised and instructed to rule with a rod of iron. After our first little hospital had been established, the Government officials undertook to get up a ball for its benefit. Now you would think it would have been only

reasonable and proper to have invited some of the leading townspeople—those who had built the hospital—to act as stewards. But the only stewards appointed were gold-laced gentlemen of the camp. This exclusiveness was regarded as so cutting a slight that Sandhurst was aflame with just indignation. A large number of persons refused to attend the ball (which proved a failure), and the hospital gained nothing by it. Burton's circus was here at the time; and several gentlemen having combined for the purpose of getting up another ball for the benefit of the hospital, hired the circus, paying Mr. Burton £150 for the night, and laying out £200 in preparations. War to the knife was declared between town and camp. The great night arrived, and I don't think it would be possible to find anywhere on record an instance of greater vindictiveness and tyranny than that of which the Commissioners were then guilty. I should have told you that they had any amount of grog at their own ball. And what did they do? In the evening, before this famous historical town ball opened, they marched down in person with a *posse* of police, and seized the whole of the wine and spirits that had been provided. The late lamented Mr. Lewis Macpherson, of the firm of L. Macpherson and Co., as quiet and good-natured a man as ever breathed, was, perhaps, one of the most emphatic among the many gentlemen who remonstrated with the Commissioners in his condemnation of their conduct. And the ire of the valiant wearers of the gold-laced caps being roused, they threatened to send him to the logs, and he was actually marched some distance in that direction under arrest. But they thought better of it, fortunately for their repute. Despite their efforts to mar success, the ball proved all its promoters could have desired. It was, in fact, quite a splendid affair for those days, completely eclipsing the great camp effort. A sum of £150 was netted for the hospital, which would have received £200, had not the caterer been fined £50 for having contraband goods—to wit, grog—in his possession, and the amount was paid by the committee."

CHAPTER III.

The Law and its Administration.

"Of all injustice, that is the greatest which goes under the name of law."
—*L'Estrange.*

1851-3.—The License Tax of 30s. per month—Proposed increase to £3—Objection by the Diggers—Movement under Captain Harrison—The Proposal Abandoned—Bendigo Mac.—His Administration of the Law—Simon O'Neil—Sergeant Richards—Sly-grog Selling.

IN our last chapter the manner in which the license tax was collected, and the way in which the mining regulations were administered, have been described minutely, and reference will now be made to the circumstances accompanying the imposition of the tax, and the way in which the Government were compelled by the strong force of public opinion to abandon the idea of an increase.

The first proclamation of the Lieutenant-Governor respecting the issue of licenses for gold digging, was dated August 16th, 1851.

The following was the form of gold license :—

GOLD LICENSE.

"The bearer, ————————, having paid to me the sum of one pound ten shillings on account of the ———————— territorial revenue, I hereby license him to dig, search for and remove gold on and from any such Crown land within the ————————, as I shall assign to him for that purpose during the month of ————, 1851. This license must be produced whenever demanded by me or any other person acting under the authority of the Government.

"(Signed) A. B.,
"Commissioner."

The diggers murmured at the enforcement of this law, but so intent were they on their work that they at first paid the tax with tolerable submissiveness, and gave but a passing thought to the

injustice of it. The manner in which it was collected, however, was calculated to create discontent, and the murmurings became distinct protests upon the issue of a further proclamation announcing the intention of the Government to increase the license fee to £3 per month from the 1st January, 1852. The *Argus* warned the Government of the impolicy of this step, and advised the authorities to prepare for a serious outbreak among the diggers if the double fee were enforced. The diggers were reported to be buying up guns, pistols, and ammunition. A public meeting of 14,000 diggers was held near the Post Office, Mount Alexander, on the 9th December, to oppose the £3 license fee. Meetings were also held at Bendigo in front of Captain Harrison's tent on the 8th and 9th December, 1851, against the £3 license, Captain Harrison being the chairman. The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Frencham, Count Landostni (a Polish nobleman), Moss, M'Donald, Russell, M'Grath, Sandbach and Regan. The various speakers strongly denounced the £3 license, and resolutions to stand by each other to the last, in resisting it, were unanimously carried ; also a resolution of thanks to the *Argus* and *Geelong Advertiser* for their sympathy and support.

The movement was successful, and on the 15th December it was announced that there would be no increase of the fee. Upon this, the movement among the diggers subsided. (The agitations of 1853 and 1854 will be dealt with in subsequent chapters.) Captain Harrison, who was the leader of the agitation against the £3 license fee on Bendigo, did not figure in the movements of later years. He died in 1869 at the age of sixty-seven years. It may be mentioned that before the goldfields movement he took part in those for the separation of Port Phillip from New South Wales and for the cessation of transportation.

In 1853, when the yield of gold exceeded that of each of the two previous years, the presence of crime and numerous disorderly characters on the goldfield rendered a strict administration of the law necessary. In this year, Mr. Lachlan M'Lachlan, or "Bendigo Mac," as he was more familiarly styled, appeared upon the scene, and administered the law with a rigour and severity which brought upon him censure from many quarters. Enough has been written at various times upon this question, however, to preclude the necessity for an expression of opinion here. Suffice

it to say that "desperate evils require desperate remedies;" but though this was evidently the axiom recognised by "Bendigo Mac," there is reason to fear there was occasionally a want of discrimination in meting out the punishments which the law of the day allowed.

At the time Mr. M'Lachlan was ordered to Bendigo, Mr. J. T. Sanders was the Clerk of the Court, and Mr. Ryall, our present Superintendent, was sergeant in the police force.

As we have said before, the Bendigo goldfield was peopled, for the most part, with a sturdy race of men, who had ventured thousands of miles across the seas to try their fortunes in the country of which they had heard such inviting accounts. Naturally, also, the same reports which tempted thousands of the flower of Britain's sons to come so far, attracted many of a very undesirable class of colonists, and among them some of the worst of the criminal class who had effected their escape from Van Dieman's Land. Very possibly Mr. M'Lachlan exaggerated the extent of the evil, and from the records of his actions as Police Magistrate, he too often imagined that those brought before him were criminals of that dark dye to which allusion has been made. Certainly, however, his strict administration of the law had a very wholesome effect—it cleared the district of men whose presence was undoubtedly prejudicial to the public safety.

In dealing with the criminal class in those days, Mr. M'Lachlan had a clever and powerful assistant in the person of the late Simon O'Neil, then the chief detective officer of the Bendigo district. O'Neil, who had formerly been for a short period connected with the Van Dieman's Land police force, had considerable knowledge of the habits of the criminal class who came over on a visit to Bendigo, as well as a personal knowledge of many of the hands themselves who were infesting the district. From him the Police Magistrate was in the habit, previous to the opening of the Court, of obtaining particulars of the men to be brought before him. When an old hand happened to be among the prisoners, he would be terrified by the fierce reprobation of "Bendigo Mac," or by the glare which shot from that inevitable eyeglass, and would have his antecedents published in the Court by the Police Magistrate in such expressions as, "I know you, you scoundrel; your name's so-and-so; you were at Norfolk

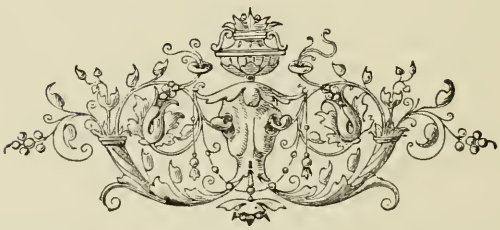
Island in such a year; you were one of the Point Peur boys in such a year." Of course the prisoner would be quite at a loss to account for the Police Magistrate's knowledge of his past career. Perhaps the Police Magistrate would direct the detective to look at the man's hands, and if there was a sign of his doing no work, he would say there was no need to go into evidence, and have the offender taken to gaol. A notable practice of the Police Magistrate was, when some fellow of doubtful antecedents was before the Bench, to take a view of his back. "Turn him round, O'Neil," he would say, and, adjusting his eyeglass, the Police Magistrate would survey him for a moment or two. "That will do, O'Neil. Now, sir," addressing the prisoner, "you can't deceive me, sir; you are from the other side, sir;—you are a Tasmanian convict." If the charge against the man was trivial, the Police Magistrate, turning to another favourite henchman of his, would say, "Sergeant Richards, see that this ruffian leaves the district within twenty-four hours, if not, bring him here again." At other times he would say to a prisoner, "This district is not big enough for both you and me. One of us must leave—which shall it be?" The prisoner would feel, of course, that there was very little doubt about the matter, and would promise to make himself scarce, requesting, probably, a couple of days' grace in order to wash up a bit of wash-dirt; and, in most cases, his Worship would grant the time, but with a terrible caution that it must on no account be exceeded. With drunkards, Mr. M'Lachlan commonly dealt very summarily, and the usual sentence, "Fined forty shillings; take him away," formed the burden of one of the popular local songs of the late Mr. Charles Thatcher, whose rendering of his own ballads at the Shamrock free concerts, obtained for him the *soubriquet* of "the Inimitable." Of the officers named above, O'Neil died in Geelong in 1869, and Sergeant Richards was for some years stationed at Hamilton.

Many other incidents have been related in connection with Mr. M'Lachlan's career as Police Magistrate. Sometimes when prisoners became violently abusive, the threat of the "gag" would be used, and in one particular case, where two Tasmanians would not desist from their abuse of "Bendigo Mac," it was actually put into execution, Sergeant O'Neil putting an effectual stop to their flow of vituperation. It took the combined strength of that strong detective officer and some half-dozen constables to

handcuff the prisoners and fix the gags in their mouths, and even after that they vented their impotent rage by glaring horribly at Mr. M'Lachlan, and (to slightly alter the quotation) "looking daggers though using none." Mr. M'Lachlan's extensive dealing with the criminal class of those days naturally evoked their hatred, and it was consequently not to be wondered at that he was frequently afraid to walk the streets, lest he should be attacked. The only instance of the kind related, however, is that of a drunken man who endeavoured to assault "Bendigo Mac." Mr. M'Lachlan showed considerable pluck, and secured his man until the arrival of the police. An amusing story about the conviction of Dr. ——— of Pall Mall, for sly grog selling, has also been told in connection with Mr. M'Lachlan's rule as a police magistrate. It was well known that the doctor referred to was a breaker of the law in regard to sly grog selling, but the difficulty was to effect a conviction. However, the responsible officer was informed by the Police Magistrate that he must bring the doctor to book on pain of losing his situation. The officer was accordingly put on his mettle, but was equal to the emergency, and disguising himself as a digger, he called at the doctor's to have an aching hollow tooth drawn. Just as the doctor was about to perform the operation, the patient felt the necessity for his courage being fortified by a drop of something good, and asked to be allowed to go to the nearest public house. But the doctor said he needn't go, and drawing some curtains aside, pointed out where he could obtain what he required. Having paid for his nobbler, and gone through the fortification process, he submitted to the operation, but of course had to have another dose of the "creature" at its conclusion. This exploit was the means by which a charge of sly grog selling was sheeted home to the doctor. The liquor was confiscated, a £50 fine inflicted, and the doctor was obliged to leave the district. The laws with regard to confiscated property were lax in those days, and it is related that "Bendigo Mac.'s" man Dick did a brisk sly grog trade with the liquor which formed part of the doctor's confiscated property.

In the days when the State, by an arbitrary and blundering administration, brought about the Red Ribbon agitation, which caused so much public disturbance on Bendigo, Mr. M'Lachlan carried out the law very strictly. He took active measures to

suppress the disturbances which were so frequent. At that time there were numbers of native New Zealanders at work in Bendigo, and when the agitation was at its height, some hundred and fifty of them armed themselves with pistols, guns, etc., and marching to the residence of the police magistrate, volunteered to place themselves under his orders in maintaining the peace of the district. They camped outside of his residence for a night and a day, but their services were fortunately not required for the preservation of order, which was secured more peacefully and effectively by the Government making reasonable and just concessions to the diggers. In carrying out the harsh license law, Mr. M'Lachlan frequently expressed his regret at having to fine men who were without licenses in consequence of poverty.



CHAPTER IV.

Anti-License Agitation and Laying Out of the Town.

"For freedom's battle, once begun,
Bequeath'd by bleeding sire to son,
Though baffled oft, is ever won."
—*Byron.*

1853-4.—The Anti-Gold License Agitation—The Loyalty of the Diggers—Dr. Owens and Mr. G. E. Thomson—Memorial to the Lieutenant Governor—The Red Ribbon—Reduction of the Tax—The New Goldfields Bill—Sandhurst Nomenclature—Progress of the Township—Police Office—Bendigo Bank—Surveying the Township—Government Land Sales—Camp and Auction Streets—Pall Mall—Communication with Melbourne—Prices on Bendigo.

NOBODY can be surprised in view of the circumstances which have already been referred to, in connection with the state of the law and the administration of it on the goldfield, that the spirit of discontent which had been engendered should have eventuated in the anti-gold-license agitation. As the diggers began to know each other their common grievance against the law, and the manner in which it was administered, bound them together in a way which nothing else but a community of interest could. Leaders who could temper their enthusiasm with moderation were not hard to find; for among the diggers were very many men whose education fitted them to adorn high positions, and, indeed, many such were content to continue as privates in the ranks of the great organisation which sprang up on the prevailing discontent. The men were not disloyal as has been alleged; their feelings were not those of men antagonistic to the Crown, but of individuals with a deep-seated grievance against an iniquitous law.

It was not until 1853 that the movement assumed a definite shape. As we have already noticed, a proposal had been made to increase the tax from 30s. to £3, but it was resisted so strenuously that the idea was abandoned. In the agitation which had been occasioned by this proposal, Captain Harrison

took a leading part. In 1853 the populations of the Ovens and Forest Creek were the first to become incensed, their display of feeling being due to acts of especial severity by the authorities. Dr. Owens, who had removed from Bendigo to the Ovens district became one of the champions of the diggers on that goldfield in conjunction with Mr. Angus Mackay. A digger was shot by one of the troopers, and Dr. Owens at once took his stand against "digger hunting" and the license system, which led to it. He called together one of the largest meetings ever held there; resolutions were passed, and he and Mr. Mackay were elected to proceed to Melbourne to represent the digger's case before the Commission which had been appointed to inquire into the grievances of the diggers. But previous to the appointment of the Commission, public meetings had been held on Bendigo, at which recognised leaders were selected, and a platform, which had the main object of freeing the diggers from the iniquitous system was constructed. Mr. George Edward Thomson was the prime mover. The efforts of the Anti-Gold-License Association, which was then inaugurated, were in the direction of obtaining a reduction of the fee. Mr. Thomson, then in his prime, was a powerful speaker, and a shrewd and temperate guide, and it was but natural that the diggers selected him as their chief spokesman. At a meeting held on the 6th June, 1853, in the camp reserve, near where Charing Cross is now, the licensing system and the tyrannical proceedings of the camp officials were denounced in no measured terms. A memorial was prepared in reference to this and other questions, and at the end of July it had been signed by 23,000 diggers of Bendigo and Castlemaine, 8000 signatures from M'Ivor swelling it up to 31,000. The memorial was taken to Melbourne for presentation, but the reply of the Lieutenant Governor (Mr. La Trobe) was, that the Government were not inclined to make any change in the existing laws. "He was satisfied the diggers were mere grievance mongers, and he knew what was his duty, and would do it at all risks. If the diggers troubled the Government much more, he would let them hear how cannon could roar."

"What terrible revolutionists the men composing the meeting which received the answer of Mr. La Trobe must have been (says Mr. Haverfield) when they let him hear how loyally they could roar when called upon to show their attachment to the throne."

On the 21st of August, a mass meeting was held at the Hospital Hill, and every digger in sympathy with the movement wore a red ribbon as a badge. Mr. Thomson says it may fairly be estimated that ninety per cent. adopted this simple mode of showing their sympathy with the movement. The dangers of a disturbance became very serious, and the camp officials with their military, were very apprehensive of an attack. Another meeting was held some days later, at which it was decided to tender ten shillings as the license fee. Ten persons selected by the meeting went to the camp of the Commissioners and tendered the ten shillings, which was refused; but a promise was made that a messenger should be despatched to Melbourne with an account of what had taken place, and an assurance was given that no molestation would be offered to the people assembled.

The diggers at Waranga and other places were at this time showing an opposition to the tax and the system that prevailed, which would take no denial, and at length the Legislature were obliged to take the subject into consideration. The Commission to inquire into the grievances of the diggers followed, and eventually resulted in the passing of a Goldfields' Bill, in which it was provided that the license fee should be reduced from thirty shillings per month to thirteen shillings and fourpence. In the meantime the payment of the fee had been suspended, a proclamation being issued pending the settlement of the Bill. Mr. Haverfield relates that, when simultaneously with this proclamation signed by the Lieutenant-Governor, another informing the diggers that they must pay the tax as usual, and signed by the Chief Commissioner, Mr. Wright, was posted, the diggers wished to know which proclamation they were required to obey. Mr. Panton replied, "The one signed by the Governor," and added that the tax would not be collected until the Bill had passed.

The reduction of the fee to thirteen shillings and fourpence per month settled the question for a short time only. The new Bill did not please, while the tyranny of the officials and police was quite as bad as before. The root of the evil—taxation without representation—had not been lost sight of in the agitation, and the extension of the franchise to the diggers was one of the demands which was now made. In their desire to

pacify the digging population, the Government nominated Mr. E. N. Emmett as a representative of the goldfield in the Legislative Council, the only branch of the Legislature then in existence. Mr. Emmett was to have his nomination endorsed by the diggers, but they wanted the right to nominate and elect; and while Mr. Emmett was held in high esteem by the population, the proposal simply to endorse his nomination was rejected with scorn. Mr. Emmett had, along with Dr. Owens, Mr. G. E. Thomson, Mr. W. D. C. Denovan, Captain Brown, Captain Harrison, Mr. Robert Benson, Captain Baker, Mr. R. R. Haverfield and others, taken a leading part in the agitation of 1853. Matters had been brought to the stage mentioned at the close of that year, and it was decreed by fate that a period even more eventful than that through which the diggers had passed in the early stages of the agitation, should ensue before the wrongs under which they suffered were altogether rectified, and before they obtained the rights to which, as free men, they were justly entitled. The year 1853 closed with the manifestation of great opposition to the License Tax, while the new Goldfields' Bill, which had been expected to remedy matters, was looked upon with much disfavour, and considered an unjust and oppressive enactment. The diggers, at public meetings held throughout the diggings, pledged themselves to use their utmost efforts to procure the abolition of the license fee, and to secure for all residents on the goldfields a full and fair share in the representation of the colony; and at these meetings it was distinctly understood that only constitutional measures would be resorted to in procuring the required reforms.

Sandhurst is generally understood to have been named after the English military college of that name, because of the presence in the ranks of the regiments ordered to Bendigo of officers who had graduated at that institution. Be this as it may, the name was as inappropriate as that of Castlemaine, where there was no castle; or of Beechworth, a town situated in mountainous country, while the Beechworth of England is in a quiet landscape. The native names are quite as euphonious and far more applicable. No exception can be taken to Campaspe, Wimmera or Loddon. The diggers gave names to the gullies in and around Sandhurst, such as Ironbark, California,

Long, Spring, and Golden, which are appropriate. In the case of Eaglehawk, the first diggers found a large nest of this king of Australian birds in one of the trees in the gully. In the case of Pegleg, one of the first diggers had a wooden leg, and Robinson Crusoe got its name from an eccentric solitary character who pitched his tent there when it was opened. Sheepshead, Tinpot, and Deadhorse Gullies are ridiculous enough, but they have each reference to some fact connected with them.

The judgment of the Surveyor-General in not allowing stores and buildings on the space of ground known as Pall Mall was early proved by the overflowing of the creek. Every fall of rain of a more than ordinary nature made crossing the creek at View Point, anything but safe. About February, 1854, a start was made towards the erection of a bridge. but the progress of the work was tedious in the extreme. Pike's bridge, which was at the site of the fountain, was erected about the year 1857. Mr. W. Smith was the architect and Mr. M. Rundell, the contractor. The timbers—logs thirty-feet long—were carted from the ranges at Ironbark.

The police office in these days consisted of two moderately sized tents joined together. In one sat the Magistrate and clerk behind a species of counter, and administered justice through a kind of open window, as they would refreshments to a thirsty crowd. The Post Office also consisted of two tents, one for the receipt, and the other for the delivery of letters.

The Bendigo Bank was chiefly composed of wood upon a strong stone foundation. The strong room was of stone, roof and all. The interior of the bank was spacious and airy, the walls being nicely papered ; but the roof was of canvas. This institution was situated on the flat at View Point, just within the camp enclosure, and almost on the site of the present Bank of Victoria. The proprietor was Dr. Smith, and the manager Mr. Emmett, who was also the originator. Though nearly all the other goldfields had been favoured with branches of the metropolitan establishments, Bendigo was without such a convenience until private enterprise supplied the necessity. In March, 1854, the Bendigo Bank was purchased by the Bank of Victoria for £2,500, the transfer being made on the 13th of that month. The manager appointed was Mr. George Vallentine, who had been previously manager of the branch at Geelong.

Mr. Emmett, who was manager of the Bendigo Bank, resumed his occupation as an auctioneer. The bank commenced building operations alongside the wooden structure later in the same year.

Early in 1854, surveyors were engaged marking out the streets, and many persons commenced to erect permanent buildings. The site of the town was the gentle slope extending from the camp to the low dividing ridge near Back Creek. Very likely little thought was given to its extension in all directions, from the bounds thus indicated.

About the beginning of August, 1854, a Government land sale of town allotments took place at the Theatre Royal, Mr. E. N. Emmett being the Government auctioneer. There were ninety-eight lots submitted, situated in portions A, B and C of the township of Sandhurst. The greater number of these lots had improvements on them from the value of £150 to £1,800. The lots with no property on them were fixed at the regular upset price of £50 an acre, while those with buildings were fixed at various prices according to their probable value from £100 to £800 per acre. The highest bid was for a corner lot near the Black Swan, at the north-east corner of Pall Mall, for which at the rate of £3,000 per acre was given, besides a valuation of £150 for property situated upon it. In another instance at the rate of upwards of £2,000 per acre was given for a lot, and in many cases the rate of £1,100 was reached.

Improvements went on at a rapid rate thereafter, new buildings replacing the tents and slab huts which had previously existed, and the inhabitants beginning in earnest the work of erecting for themselves permanent buildings.

The sale of building allotments was accompanied by an order for the removal of the buildings which had been erected upon the reserves and streets of the township. By the end of October, 1854, the space formerly covered by the shops and stores of Camp Street and portion of Auction Street presented nothing but heaps of rubbish, fire-places and portions of the former buildings. The front of Pall Mall began to rise from the piles of ruin, irregular and unfinished, but presenting here and there a shop whose well finished front would not disgrace Collins Street.

In the latter part of 1853 a line of coaches was established between Bendigo and the metropolis by Mr. R. J. Howard Hitherto the time occupied in covering this distance was four

days, and the enterprise of Mr. Howard resulted in this space of time being reduced by one-half. Previous to this, Mr. Howard had established a post office at Forest Creek, and a conveyance between that place and Kyneton for the forwarding of the mails. He had also taken part in the movement which was made against the attempt of the Government to enforce a double amount of license fee. In March of the following year the newly-discovered goldfield at Bryant's Ranges, Tarrengower, proved such an attraction that Mr. Howard resolved to move his line of coaches from Bendigo to that place, and on two nights in succession Mr. Howard was entertained by his friends on Bendigo, who wished him success in his new undertaking. It was not long after this that the firm of Cobb & Co. established a line of coaches between Sandhurst and Melbourne, and later on between Sandhurst and Inglewood and other places. As the railway lines were constructed, however, their sphere became limited, until at length, in 1888, the office of the celebrated firm on Bendigo was closed.

The following is a list of the prices current at the beginning of January, 1854:—Flour, £45 to £48 per ton; oats 17s. per bushel; bran, 9s. per bushel; sugar, dark, 5½d. per lb.; sugar, light, 6½d. per lb.; tea, Congou, £8 10s. per chest; coffee, 1s. 9d. per lb.; raisins, 10d. to 1s. per lb.; sperm candles, 2s. 3d. per lb.; Cavendish tobacco, 4s. per lb.; currants, 2s. per lb.; butter, good, 1s. 10d. to 2s. per lb.; ham, 1s. 4d.; bacon, 1s. 2d. per lb.; salad oil, 20s. per dozen pint bottles; pickles, 22s. per dozen pint bottles; bottled fruits, 36s. per dozen; serviceable draught horses, £50 to £60; middling, £30 to £40; good hacks, £20 to £30; and middling, £15 to £20. Good mousing cats brought from £2 to £3.

Writing of an earlier stage in the history of the goldfield, Mr. Thomson says:—

"Flour was from £16 to £20 per bag, equivalent to between five or six ounces of gold; nothing sold by weight could be purchased under 2s. per lb., beef and mutton only excepted; fresh pork was 2s. 6d.; ham, 4s. to 5s. per lb.; butter, chiefly Irish salt, was 4s. to 5s. per lb.; milk, 4s. per quart; sardines, small tins, 3s. each; pickles, principally London manufacture, 3s. 6d. per pint bottle, and the other things in like proportions. Fresh vegetables of any kind were scarcely procurable; cabbages brought from 3s. 6d. to 10s. a-piece; onions, 4s., and potatoes 1s. 8d. per lb.; other descriptions were not obtainable at any price. Mining tools and implements were

equally dear, a cradle costing £6; puddling tub, half H.H.D., £4 10s. Horse feed shared in the like fabulous prices; oats were from £2 10s. to £3 5s. per bushel; bush hay, £70 per ton. English pressed sold to 2s. per lb., but very little was used at that price. Coined money, or its equivalent in paper, was extremely scarce; purchases were thus very frequently effected by the interchange of gold for other commodities; the Government took it in payment of revenue at the rate of £3 per oz.; copper money was for a long time unused, boxes of matches doing duty for it when anything less than a shilling had to be accounted for. The gold buyer escaped the necessity of small change by having no smaller weight than a half-pennyweight."

CHAPTER V.

Progress and Development.

"Peace hath her victories
No less renowned than war."
—*Milton.*

1853-7.—Representation of the Diggers—Visit of the Surveyor-General and Colonial Secretary—The Census—The Chinese Question—Education—Visit of Sir Charles Hotham—The Anti-License Movement—The Ballarat Rebellion—First Local Court—Eight Hours' Movement—Price of Township Allotments—The Liquor Question—Murray River Railway.

ON the 27th December, 1853, some forty or fifty of the detachment of the regiment, up till then stationed on Bendigo, left for Melbourne, their withdrawal being regarded as an indication of the confidence of the Government in the continuance of tranquillity.

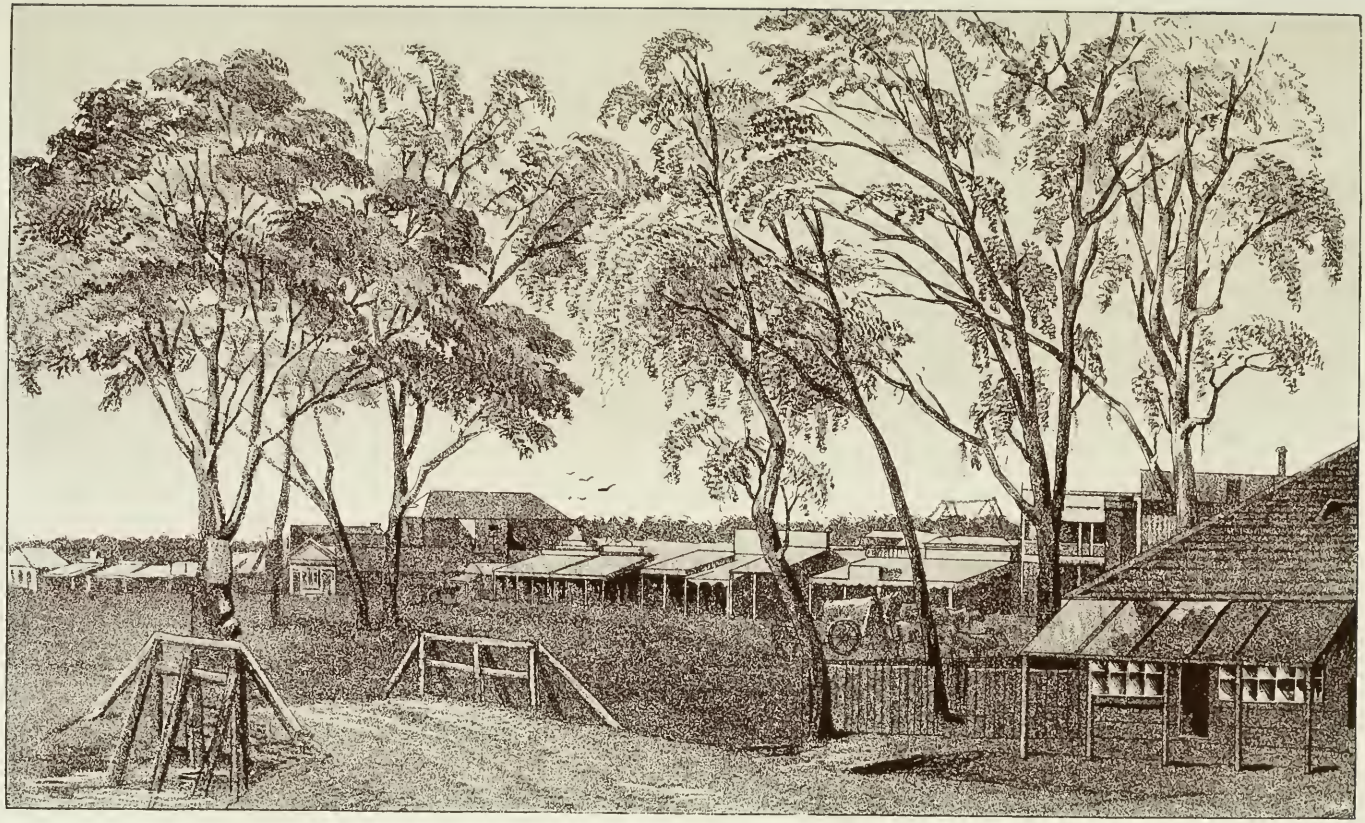
The representation of the diggers formed the subject of a public meeting on the 31st December, 1853, when the chair was taken by Dr. Owens. Motions were carried protesting against the new constitution, and appointing Drs. Owens and Wall a deputation to read the protest at the bar of the Legislative Council. A third resolution was moved that the meeting await with anxiety the election of Representatives to the Diggers' Congress, believing that when elected, they will at once proceed to relieve their constituents in a loyal and constitutional manner of the obnoxious clauses of the new bill, and effect the abolition of the license tax.

Early in 1854, the Surveyor-General (Mr. Clarke) and the Colonial Secretary (Mr. Foster) visited Bendigo. A deputation waited on the latter for the purpose of laying before him the requirements of the diggings and the grievances under which the residents laboured. The objection to the new Gold Act

was brought under Mr. Foster's notice by Dr. Owens, who said the feeling against the license tax was daily gaining strength; whilst there was a very strong objection to the new constitution, which failed to provide representation for 150,000 of the colonists. Mr. Edmonds and Mr. Mackay also spoke, the latter stating that until the diggers were enfranchised, and granted the same privileges as other members of the community, the goldfields would be in a state of constant agitation. The Colonial Secretary replied that, though it was the anxious desire of the Government to enfranchise the diggers, it could not be done for two years, or until the proposed measure had received the assent of Parliament. About a month later, great indignation was expressed when it became known that Drs. Owens and Wall, who had been deputed to bring under the notice of the Legislative Council the grievances of the diggers, had been refused permission to appear at the bar of the House.

In April a census of the people of Bendigo was taken, and the total population was announced some months later as 15,480. A considerable number of the diggers had left for other fields at the beginning of 1854, and these figures by no means represented the population of Bendigo in its most prosperous days. It was estimated that the number of Chinese on the goldfield was then about 4,000.

About the middle of 1854, there was a strong agitation on the goldfields against the Chinese; and in consequence of some indiscreet remarks by one of the leaders of the movement, a disturbance very nearly occurred. This fact had the effect, however, of forcing the hand of the Government, who, becoming alarmed at the marked hostility of the mining population to the wholesale introduction of the Chinese into the colony, brought in a bill imposing a capitation tax of £10 per head on every Chinaman entering the colony, which the Legislature passed. Protectors and Interpreters were provided by the Government. By an enactment passed in 1858, the protection ticket was superseded by what was termed a residence tax of £4 per annum. This pressed hardly upon the poorer classes of Chinese, and before long a spirit of insubordination was manifested. Having suspected some of their head men at Castlemaine of being concerned in the enforcement of the obnoxious residence tax, some of them actually caused placards to be distributed,



PALL MALL IN 1855.

OLD POST-OFFICE.

offering a reward to anyone who would kill the head men. To make matters worse for the Chinese, a storekeeper named M'Elligott was murdered in his store at Ironbark Gully by three Chinamen. This was in the very height of the agitation caused by the enforcement of the tax. There was some reason to suppose that the murder was committed by hired assassins, and as some time elapsed before the chief of the three murderers, Ah Key, was arrested through the instrumentality of Hung Si, another Chinaman, it was thought they were trying to hide the culprits. This they denied, but the circumstances of the murder prevented the subject of the treatment of the Chinese from being dispassionately discussed. Eventually, however, owing to the interest manifested in their behalf by a number of prominent citizens, the residence tax was abolished.

Some reference to the provision for the education of the young may be of interest at this stage. The number of schools on Bendigo in August, 1854, was seven, of which two were conducted under the national system, three were Wesleyan, one Presbyterian, and one Roman Catholic. There were no schools connected with the Church of England, the Rev. Mr. Gregory, the Episcopalian clergyman, taking an active part in the establishment of national schools. Of these, the Presbyterian school, which was established by the exertions of Dr. Allison, was alone unsupported by the Government. There was one national school in Sandhurst, near View Point, while the other was at the Seventh White Hill. Mr. Orlebar, the inspector of national schools, who visited Bendigo at this time, stated that the most numerous attendance which he found at the former school was thirty-two children, and at the latter fourteen. All these children were very young, and none were far advanced in the several branches of education. The Wesleyans had a school in Sandhurst, another at White Hills, and a third at Golden Square. The attendance at the first was about forty, at the second thirty-five, and at the third somewhat less. At the Presbyterian school the number of children in attendance was about thirty-four, and at the Roman Catholic about fifty. The total number of children at the seven schools was about 238, which the correspondent of the *Argus* (Mr. Mackay), after making every allowance for the character of the population and the inducements for the children to go to work instead of to school, considered was not one-seventh of the

number of children that ought to have been in regular attendance at school. He severely condemned the Government for not attending to this matter, for he considered that the want of either religious or secular instruction could not fail to have a very demoralising influence on the character of the succeeding generation.

In July a movement was set on foot for the representation of the district at the forthcoming Paris Exhibition. Mr. Panton was appointed president, Dr. Allison hon. secretary, and Mr. Vallentine hon. treasurer. It was decided to hold a local exhibition to be opened by the Governor, at which the exhibits to be afterwards sent to Paris should be shown to the local residents.

The 4th September, 1854, was a day of great excitement and rejoicing on account of His Excellency the Lieutenant-Governor's visit. The Criterion Hotel was decorated with flowers, evergreens, and flags, as were nearly all the hotels in Sandhurst. It was about five o'clock in the afternoon before His Excellency and suite arrived at Golden Square. Mr. Emmett and Dr. Tierney, accompanied by Mr. Walsh, met the cavalcade with hats off, and having welcomed His Excellency to Bendigo, invited him to a public dinner from the townspeople of Sandhurst, an invitation which was graciously accepted. The crowd then stopped the carriage, several of them took out the horses and proceeded to draw the carriage along. The band struck up "God Save the Queen," and afterwards the "Conquering Hero." The diggers fell in behind the band, then the Germans with their flag and band, and next the men of other nations, coloured Americans and Chinese with banners. At the Royal Hotel at View Point there was a banner hung across the road with the words :—

"HE'S A RIGHT 'UN,"

inscribed on it. At the bridge at View Point there was a triumphal arch, over which was placed a crown with the standards of England and America floating over it. The Governor made a speech in which he thanked the diggers for their reception, which had thoroughly convinced him of their loyalty. In the evening the hotels were brilliantly illuminated, the Criterion, Freemason's Bendigo and Royal Hotels being most conspicuous. Over the Criterion was the inscription in illuminated

letters—"Welcome Sir Charles and Lady Hotham to Sandhurst." It should be also mentioned that at the Hibernian Hotel, Golden Square, there was a banner placed over the road with the words—*Cead mille failthe.*

On the 5th September, His Excellency and Lady Hotham attended a public breakfast, and subsequently opened the exhibition. The building in which the exhibition was held was erected on the ground granted for a Mechanics' Institute. It was sixty feet by twenty feet. There was one grand entrance on the north-west side, while the front of the building was composed of open windows hung with purple drapery, the panels above being ornamented.

In the evening, Sir Charles and Lady Hotham honoured the Princess' Theatre with their presence, when Sheridan Knowles' play, "The Hunchback," was performed. The tickets of admission for the evening were 21s. and 10s. 6d., but the house was well filled notwithstanding. Sir Charles and Lady Hotham expressed their pleasure and surprise at witnessing a performance of such a description on Bendigo.

Next evening, His Excellency and Lady Hotham were entertained at a dinner, which was served in the large room of the Criterion Hotel. Dr. Smith was in the chair, and 120 persons were present, including the Surveyor-General, Colonel Valliant, Captain Kaye, the Police Magistrate (Mr. M'Lachlan), the Resident Commissioner (Mr. Panton), Commissioners Wilkinson, M'Kenzie, Reynell, Standish, Dr. Roche, Messrs. Lyttleton, Winch and other officials. On the following day, His Excellency and Lady Hotham left Bendigo for M'Ivor.

The winter months of 1854 saw a complete change wrought on the aspect of the township, by reason of the newly-surveyed streets. New and substantial buildings were going up in all directions. Notable among these were the Bank of Victoria and the Wesleyan Chapel.

The disaffection among the diggers had not been removed by the concessions of the Government towards the end of 1853, and all through 1854 efforts were being made to bring about a farther change in the existing state of affairs. There was a great deal of bitterness imported into the struggle, though not to such an extent on Bendigo as on other goldfields. This was in no small measure due to the moderation shown by Mr. J. A. Panton

during this trying period. While at Ballarat and Creswick the diggers were being goaded into excesses, the diggers of Bendigo had no cause to complain of such tyranny. At the same time, the yoke was galling and oppressive, no matter how moderately the law might be administered. In some instances, the diggers were led by men of warm temperament, and Captain Brown, through his injudicious language and foolish threats, was placed for a period in prison. On the 26th August, 1854, an anti-license meeting, convened by Mr. Denovan, was held in front of the Criterion Hotel, and attended by between two and three thousand persons. The chair was taken by Dr. Wall. Resolutions were carried in favour of the total abolition of the license tax and the Gold Commission, and in favour of the extension of the franchise to the mining population. The committee appointed to carry out the views of the meeting, were Dr. Wall and Messrs. Emmett, Denovan, Armstrong, Meaton, Mackay, Dixon, and C. Howard.

On the afternoon of the 5th September, a mass meeting of 8,000 or 9,000 diggers was held, at which a memorial was drawn up for presentation to the Governor, Sir Charles Hotham, then on a visit to Bendigo, stating in detail the various objections to the license tax, complaining of the total exclusion of the inhabitants of the district from any share in the representation of the country, and asking that the lands should be thrown open to the people. The assembled diggers then formed into procession and marched to the camp, to the house of the Resident Commissioner (the present residence of the principal of the High School), where His Excellency was then staying. His Excellency having heard the memorial read, promised to give it his consideration. With regard to the lands, he said the Government were doing their best to have them thrown open to the people as fast as they could. He would endeavour to make the tax as light as possible. A tremendous burst of cheering from the assembled thousands greeted His Excellency at the conclusion of his remarks.

Notwithstanding the reassuring tone of His Excellency's addresses while on Bendigo, there was no mention of the diggers' grievances in his speech at the opening of the Legislature, and this fact was strongly commented on.

On 14th October a public meeting was held in front of the Criterion Hotel, on the subject of the management of the

goldfields. The chair was taken by Mr. Hopkins. Resolutions were passed to the effect that the agitation for the redress of the grievances should be persisted in, that the co-operation of all classes should be invited, and that an association be formed to be called "The Goldfields Reform League." The meeting was addressed by Messrs. Emmett, Wall, MacPherson, Benson, Walsh, Dumphy, Burrall, Edmonds and Denovan, and the last gentleman was appointed one of two delegates to visit the various goldfields, and also Melbourne and Geelong, to obtain their sympathy, and to secure their aid in urging the claims of the residents of the goldfields upon the Government.

The state of affairs on the diggings became intolerable towards the close of 1854, and culminated in the celebrated Eureka Stockade riots at Ballarat, on the 3rd of December. Just before these riots took place, a monster meeting of miners, held on Bendigo, gave a hearty reception to Mr. Holyoake, a delegate from Ballarat, who came to ask that the diggers of Bendigo should unite with the diggers of that goldfield in their efforts to abolish the license tax and obtain free and equal representation. Mr. Emmett was in the chair, and the meeting was addressed by Messrs. Holyoake, Denovan, Benson, Dumphy, Dixon and Dr. Roche. Mr. Denovan was delegated to represent Bendigo, but when he and Mr. Holyoake had proceeded part of the way over to Ballarat the news of the riots and the proclamation of martial law reached them. Further efforts in the matter of uniting with the diggers of Ballarat were therefore futile, and Mr. Denovan returned to Bendigo *via* Castlemaine, where he addressed a mass meeting of diggers. Had Mr. Holyoake's visit taken place earlier, the Eureka Stockade affair might have been avoided.

The news of the Ballarat disturbances created great excitement on Bendigo. The details of that great historical event, and the effect which it had upon the Government of the day as illustrative of the necessity for the abolition of the oppressive laws under which the diggers lived, it is not necessary to refer to here. Upon the resignation of the Colonial Secretary (Mr. Foster), which took place shortly afterwards, his successor (Mr. Haines) appointed a Royal Commission. This Commission proceeded to the goldfields, and eventually recommended a complete change in the management. These changes were announced by Mr. Haines in the Council and shortly after carried into effect. The

miners' right was substituted for the iniquitous license tax; leases of auriferous areas were granted, local courts were established, and the goldfields obtained the privilege of municipal institutions and legislative representation. This latter was certainly not of the character demanded. Dr. Owens, who was the first representative, had to be elected by all the diggings before he could take his seat. However, from this time forward the rights of the digging population began to grow in extent and influence until at length, under the new constitution two years later, Bendigo was represented in the lower branch of the Legislature, as well as forming part of the North-Western Province of the Legislative Council.

On the 28th July, 1855, the election of members of the first local court took place, with the result that the members were Messrs. Cunningham, O'Connor, Emmett, M'Kenzie, Benson, Denovan, Hulkes, Wetherell and Hoskins. The local courts had been established by the Government for the purpose of framing mining laws and regulations. Mr. Panton was gazetted chairman of the local board for the Bendigo district.

A meeting was held on the 10th May, 1856, in support of the eight hours' movement in Bendigo, and an association called "The Amalgamated Builders' Association," consisting of masons, bricklayers, carpenters, plasterers and glaziers was formed.

The first Circuit Court was held in February, 1857, the occasion being the first time upon which His Honor Chief Justice Stawell entered upon the duties of Chief Justice, to which position he had just been elevated.

At the beginning of 1857 the town was showing signs of considerable advancement. The price of land had trebled in the year. The population had increased, and though the number of persons engaged in mining was not as large as formerly, those who were following up other pursuits had increased threefold. The population of the Sandhurst municipality was made up in April, when it was announced that the total was 12,159 persons, of whom about 2,000 were Chinese. Of the remaining 10,159, 6,865 were males and 3,294 females. It must be borne in mind that the municipality did not at this time include Ironbark and Long Gully.

Previous to 1857 the names of Lachlan Fraser, Henry Robinson and others figure in the newspapers of the period as champions of the temperance cause. On the 11th June, 1857, a meeting

was held at the Bendigo Coffee Rooms, at which it was unanimously agreed to form a society. Mr. Lachlan Fraser was elected the first president, and Mr. D. Buchan the first secretary. The first public meeting was held in the Church of England schoolroom, and was eminently successful in awakening attention to the importance of the new movement. The society made steady progress. The number of members at its formation was nine, and in 1860 they amounted to 243. While on the 12th of August, 1857, we find that the inaugural dinner of the Licensed Victuallers' Association on Bendigo was held, on the 8th of November a visit was paid to Bendigo by Mr. R. Heales, M.L.A., on behalf of the Temperance League of Victoria.

It has been stated that the movement for a railway from Melbourne to the River Murray had a small beginning, the first meeting in Melbourne on the subject being attended by only two or three persons. The project was first mooted on Bendigo in July, 1855, when, at a public meeting, presided over by Mr Vallentine and addressed by Mr. Lysaght, Dr. Backhaus, Mr. Bissill, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Harney, Dr. Hunt and Mr. Mackay, it was decided to memorialise the Governor on the subject. Surveys were subsequently made. The direct route from Melbourne to Sandhurst would have left Castlemaine out, and one of the proposals was that a branch line would meet the requirements of the "Great Centre." There was a severe newspaper war on the subject, and while Sandhurst residents desired the direct route and a much shorter trip, Castlemaine residents considered that a diversion should be agreed to in their favour. The Sandhurst people resisted the diversion, and were desirous that the direct line first proposed should be carried out, as the proposition to carry the line through Castlemaine would not only be unjust and injurious to Sandhurst, but would inflict a permanent tax on the traffic between Melbourne and Sandhurst. However, the agitation, so far as Sandhurst was concerned, proved of no avail, for on the 12th September, 1857, the Legislative Assembly decided that the Murray line should pass through Castlemaine to Sandhurst. Captain Clarke, the ex-Surveyor-General, maintained that by carrying it through Castlemaine the formation of the line would be delayed for eighteen months. On the 4th May, 1858, the tender of Messrs. Cornish and Co. was accepted for its construction at a cost of £3,356,937.

CHAPTER VI.

PROGRESS AND DEVELOPMENT.—*(Continued.)*

"They are the abstracts and brief chronicles of the time."
—*Shakspeare.*

1857-67.—The Local Court—The Mining Board—Departure of Mr. Panton—Sir Henry Barkly—The Burke and Wills Expedition—Opening of the Railway to Sandhurst—Town Improvements—Eight Hours in Mines—Value of Town Properties—Inglewood Tramway—The Sandhurst Exhibition.

THE local court, one of the first local bodies instituted by the Government on the goldfields had not been found to come up to expectations. The court had, no doubt, done good work, but its proceedings were frequently distinguished by the absence of harmony and the presence of discordant elements, which prevented the proper conduct of business. On the 21st October the court resigned in a body, owing to the refusal of the resident warden to adopt two recommendations of leases of quartz reefs for the purposes of mining. The Board passed a resolution to the effect that the action of the resident warden was quite in keeping with the past treatment of the miners by the Government.

One of the new creations of the Government was the Mining Board, the first election for which took place on the 27th February, 1858. The members of the first Board were Messrs. M'Intyre, Mollison, Grove, Carpenter and Merington. Mr. M'Intyre was the first chairman, and, with the assistance of his colleagues, was instrumental in forming the first code of mining bye-laws, which proved a very complete and valuable instalment of local mining legislation.

On the 1st September, Mr. Panton, who had now been for some six years resident warden of the district, was entertained at a public dinner on the eve of his departure for England on leave of absence. The dinner was largely attended, and the best feelings were evinced towards Mr. Panton. A testimonial consisting of a ewer and salver of Bendigo gold was presented to him, and he also received a testimonial from the Chinese residents of the place, consisting of a handsome gold seal and an address. Mr. Mollison was appointed resident warden. Mr. Standish, the Chinese protector, who was also leaving Sandhurst at this time to take his place in the responsible office of Chief Commissioner of Police, was the recipient of a testimonial from the Chinese. Mr. Vincent Pyke was appointed warden and Chinese protector for the Sandhurst district. He was one of the members returned for Castlemaine at the first election for the goldfields, and has since taken a prominent part in New Zealand politics.

His Excellency Sir Henry and Lady Barkly visited Bendigo on the 10th October, 1861. They remained for five days and visited some of the principal quartz reefs, descending into "the bowels of the earth" some 300 feet and inspecting the underground workings. Lady Barkly was lowered down the shaft on a chair, and distinguished herself by knocking out auriferous quartz with a pick, while the Governor doffing for the nonce his superfine coat and his vice-royalty, donned the ordinary blue shirt and the dress of the miner while inspecting the works.

All the Victorian Governors have paid visits to Bendigo. Sir Henry Barkly's first visit was in 1857, and in 1862 he opened the Sandhurst Railway. Sir H. Manners Sutton visited Bendigo in 1866, and in 1867, when he was accompanied by Sir John Young, Governor of New South Wales. In 1873, Sir George and Lady Bowen were accompanied by Sir Hercules and Lady Robinson, of New South Wales. Sir George Bowen visited Bendigo again in 1874, 1876, and 1878; the Marquis of Normanby in 1879 and 1881 (with Princes Albert and George of Wales); Sir Henry Loch in 1883, 1886, and 1888; and Lord Hopetoun in 1890 and 1891.

The fate of the Burke and Wills exploring party forms one of the saddest pages in Australian history. Much interest was taken in the work of exploration, so much was there to learn

about the interior of the vast continent of Australia, and when fears were first entertained for the safety of Burke and Wills, there was scarcely a person living in the colony who did not share in the general anxiety. In July, letters were published in the *Advertiser* from Mr. R. R. Haverfield, who had returned to Menindie, after a trip through the Barrier Ranges to South Australian stations in the "far north," as it was called. Mr. Haverfield gave news of the death of four of the Burke and Wills exploring party; the supposed fate of its leaders; and some interesting details of the expedition. The subject was the great topic of conversation, and it was worthy of note that many on Bendigo, who knew Mr. Haverfield well, concurred in stating that no better man than he could be found to lead any expedition that might be sent in search of Mr. Burke and his unfortunate comrades. In October 1861, Mr. Haverfield returned to Bendigo, and published a number of articles, entitled "Jottings in the North." It was not till the 2nd November that definite intelligence was received in Bendigo of the fate of the Burke and Wills exploring party. The particulars of their sad end, and the appointment of a Commission by the Government of Victoria to inquire into certain charges of mismanagement against the relief party, it is not necessary to refer to here. However, it may be mentioned that the 23rd November was the date of the arrival in Bendigo on his way to Melbourne of Mr. King, the survivor of the expedition. Mr. King met with a very kind reception from the people of Bendigo. The inauguration of the Burke and Wills Monument, at the Back Creek Cemetery, took place on the 20th August in the following year. It would have been much better if the Memorial had been erected on a prominent site in the town.

The Murray River Railway was completed as far as Bendigo in 1862. On the 19th June, the ceremony of "keying in," or laying the last brick of the Big Hill Tunnel was performed by Mr. Higinbotham, the Chief Engineer of the Government. Before the opening of the railway from Melbourne to Bendigo the Council took up the subject of establishing connection with the neighbouring districts of M'Ivor and Inglewood by means of tramways. The Sandhurst and Inglewood Councils also held a conference on the subject of a

tramway, but with no definite result. The work was commenced three years later, but never completed.

The 20th October, 1862, was a red-letter day in the annals of Bendigo, ushering in a new era, in which the great goldfields' centre of the northern district was to be connected by rail with the metropolis. The line was declared open by His Excellency Sir Henry Barkly, who met with an enthusiastic reception from 20,000 people drawn together by the importance of the event. The banquet in honour of the occasion took place in the afternoon in a temporary building attached to the Town Hall, and some 800 persons sat down. The Chairman of the municipality, Mr. Robert Burrowes, presided, having on his right His Excellency the Governor. There were also present the Chief Secretary (Mr. John O'Shannassy), the Attorney-General, the Commissioner of Railways, the Commissioner of Public Works, and other notabilities. After the loyal toasts, that of the Governor was proposed by the Chairman, and His Excellency, in reply, said that the opening of the railway was not only a cause of triumph to Bendigo, but a triumph in which all Victoria should rejoice. The banquet was one of the most successful ever held in Bendigo. The building in which it was held, was the scene of a ball at night.

Although the celebrations passed off without a hitch, it was not so with the railway arrangements, and a large number of visitors were obliged, unwillingly, to remain in Bendigo for the night. As every bed in the various hotels had been engaged days beforehand, great difficulty was experienced by the benighted travellers in getting accommodation, and even the churches were availed of in their extremity, and beds made of the pews. A great number of the passengers, however, and amongst them a large proportion of ladies, preferred remaining in the carriages to running the risk of having to hunt for beds. The first official railway time-table provided for three trains on week-days, and two on Sundays. The fares for a single journey were 31s. 6d. first class, and 23s. 3d. second class; return tickets costing 47s. 3d. and 34s. 9d. Return tickets issued on Saturdays were available for the return trip by any train up to the following Monday night.

The marriage of the Prince of Wales was the occasion of a celebration in Bendigo on the 19th May, 1863. The town

was gaily decorated; trees, in commemoration of the event were planted by the Chairman of the Municipality (Mr. M'Intyre) at the View Street entrance to the Reserve, and medals were distributed amongst the children.

In June, there was a riot amongst the workmen on the railway; and some time afterwards the navvies on the line between Bendigo and Castlemaine threatened to invade the town. Special constables were sworn in, but their services were not required. The question of wages was at the bottom of these warlike displays.

The most important occurrence in the month of September, 1864, was the completion of the railway from Bendigo to Echuca. This line had been carried out with great celerity by the contractors, Messrs. Collier, Barry and Co.

At the close of the year 1864, further improvements had been effected in the town. Large additions had been made to the Hospital and Benevolent Asylum, and a wing of the new Mechanics' Institute nearly completed. At the rear of the District Court in View Street, the foundation-stones of offices for the Warden and Mining Registrar were laid. The Beehive Stores were completed. The erection of Pike's buildings was contemplated; as also was an additional wing to the Shamrock Hotel.

The question of eight hours for the miners became prominent at this time. It was very rightly contended that if eight hours was enough for those employed in the various trades, eight hours was enough for the miner who had to work underground at the risk of life and health. Ten hours was the duration of the miners' working day, and Mr. Robert Clark and Mr. Morris Collmann were the first men to take up the question, with the object of having the eight hours' system extended to the miners. Some of the employers at once signified their intention of carrying out the eight hours' system in mining, in order to afford their employés more opportunities for recreation and mental culture. The agitation was continued during the winter of 1865. A large meeting of miners was held in the Shamrock Hall, at which a number of speakers advocated the system; they referred in sensible and appropriate remarks to the injurious effects which too long hours at work in the deleterious atmosphere of a mine had on the physical system,

and to the great moral injury which the miners suffered by being deprived of the time for mental culture and recreation. The Miners' Eight Hours' Association was established, and the following gentlemen were elected a Committee to carry out its objects:—Messrs. M. Collmann, F. Palmatier, A. Hobson, W. G. Blackham, R. Clark, R. Bailey, G. Cummins, R. Rule, Sheppard, James Hobson, W. Pendleton, T. Anderson, Crooks, Pearson, and W. Cook.

In July, 1866, several of the mining companies decided to reduce the rate of wages from 50s. a week to 45s. a week, and a strike was the result. At a meeting on the 22nd July, of the Eight Hours' Committee, Eaglehawk, attended by 400 miners, resolutions were carried to the effect that the reduced wage should only be accepted on condition that the hours of labour were reduced from ten to eight per day. The chair was occupied by Mr. Morris Collmann. The first step towards reduction was taken by the Nelson, Eagle, St. Mungo, Star, and Bird's Reef Companies, which offered £2 5s. for miners and £2 2s. for labourers. The miners did not shut their eyes to the fact that many mines were not paying; but their proposal to accept £2 5s. for eight hours work must be acknowledged to be reasonable. Altogether some sixty miners were out on strike. £2 5s. was eventually recognised as the ordinary standard wage.

In January, 1865, a sale of Pall Mall property was effected for £2,520, the frontage being twenty-eight feet, and the price £90 per foot. Mr. Tolhurst, who was retiring from business, made an agreement with the Oriental Bank by which they were to have the premises he occupied in addition to those they previously had, taking the whole on a fourteen years' lease, at a rental of £750 a year.

In September, 1866, an exhibition was opened in Bendigo, and the occasion was the first visit to the district of Sir H. Manners Sutton, the new Governor. The magnificent show of gold and minerals, the produce of the district, evidently pleased him. The Bank of Victoria exhibited no less than 4,200 ozs., the Bank of New South Wales, 2,000 ozs., and the Oriental Bank some 4,500 ozs., while the mineral exhibits of private parties formed not only a rare but a most valuable collection.

As an indication of the value of property in Bendigo in December, 1866, it may be mentioned that Messrs. Macpherson and Company submitted the Niagara Hotel and two adjoining properties, a hairdressing saloon and smithy, to public auction, and the property was withdrawn from sale after the bidding had reached £2,960.

CHAPTER VII.

From the Duke of Edinburgh's Visit to Mr. M'Lachlan's Retirement.

"It is an old saying, 'that charity begins at home,' but this is no reason it should not go abroad."

—*Cumberland.*

1867-71.—Visit of the Duke—Burning of the Model Ship "Galatea"—Retirement of Messrs. Francis Brothers—Heavy Flood—The Easter Fair—Hospital Sunday—Departure of Mr. M'Lachlan.

THE Duke of Edinburgh visited Bendigo on the 18th December, 1867, great demonstrations being made in his honor. The grand sight of the day was when the Prince arrived in the Reserve. It was readily admitted by those who had seen all the demonstrations in the colony that there had been nothing so picturesque as the grouping of the children in one mass, on terraces as it were, on the hill. This was the prettiest feature of the reception, the singing of the "National Anthem" by the children in the Reserve. There were altogether 6,000 children, presenting a most charming appearance. They sang in wonderfully good tune, and cheered with a lustiness which astonished the Royal visitor.

It was related at the time, and the story may be given here for what it is worth, that the approach of His Royal Highness raised a commotion amongst the female occupants of the hillside adjoining the children's reserve, and eager inquiries were made as to which was the Royal personage. An impression existed in the minds of many that his carriage was drawn by greys. The

mayor's (Mr. M'Intyre's) carriage was thus drawn, and it preceded the Duke's, and as he passed along in all the dignity of furred robes and cocked hat, an old and respectable Scotch dame thought she had discovered the veritable Duke, and eagerly pointing to the mayor, uttered quickly to her neighbour, "There he is, the dear boy, God bless him!" Someone told her she was mistaken and pointed out the real Duke, upon which, with surprise depicted on her face, and still keeping her eye on the cocked hat, she loudly exclaimed, "Ma conscience." The exclamation will be better understood when we add that Mr. M'Intyre made an admirable Bailie Nicol Jarvie in *Rob Roy*. Another story was to the effect that another Scotch lady recognised the Duke by his likeness to his Royal mother, whom she had seen in Edinburgh.

In the afternoon His Royal Highness held a levee at the Town Hall, and in the evening the illuminations were universal throughout the town and the general brilliant effect was heightened by the lurid light thrown from the thousand torches carried by the miners.

The demonstration of the evening was marred by a sad accident, either owing to the fireworks or careless use of the torches. The Volunteer Fire Brigades' rigged ship "Galatea," which had formed a conspicuous object in the proceedings of the morning, was driven along the crowded thoroughfare manned with young citizens in sailor costume. The vessel caught fire, and before an escape could be made, four of the occupants were most severely burnt. With the assistance of the bystanders the flames were extinguished, but so severe were the injuries sustained by the lads that they had to be conveyed to the hospital. Of the four, one (James Brown) recovered from his injuries, but the other three died shortly after the accident. They were William Langston M'Grath, Sylvester Francis Cahill and Thomas Walters, each about eight years of age. They were buried at the Back Creek Cemetery, and a movement initiated by the citizens resulted in their graves being marked by public memorials.

On the next day, the 19th December, the royal visitor and party visited Messrs. Latham and Watson's mine, where they were shown the plant and process of crushing, and descended the mine. At the 400 feet level a chamber thirty-seven feet long and

twenty feet wide had been prepared. At the south end, near the roof, were two stars with a crown between, in gas, while behind, the dark space, where the cap of the reef had been taken out was lighted for 100 feet in length with candles. Champagne was handed round, and Mr. Latham, on behalf of Mr. Watson and himself, presented the Prince with a pyramidal stand ten inches high and six inches in diameter at the base, having five sides, each of which was filled with rich specimens. On reaching the surface the Prince was invited to pick and choose from a case of splendid specimens, which he did to the tune of a dozen or so. On the road to Eaglehawk, Koch's Pioneer Crushing Works was visited. After passing under several arches Eaglehawk was reached. The borough was very handsomely decorated. At the Town Hall the Duke was presented with an address from the mayor and councillors, signed by Mr. Letheby (mayor) and Mr. Tolhurst (town clerk). Subsequently, the Catherine Reef United Company's mine was visited and the party then left for Bendigo.

In the evening a ball was held in Bendigo in honor of the Prince's visit. A temporary ballroom had been erected adjoining the Town Hall, and it had been most tastefully decorated with flags and wreaths and flowers. It was 150 feet long by sixty feet wide. Unfortunately, as the building was being lighted previous to the ball, a portion of the decorations caught fire. A host of men with willing hands was on the spot almost simultaneously with the cry of fire, but the flames ran along the ceiling—composed of the most inflammable materials, and as inflammable almost as gunpowder from the heat of the weather—and before a couple of minutes had elapsed the whole of the decorations of the building from end to end were on fire and the flames were bursting through the roof at all points. In about half-an-hour the interior of the ballroom was in ruins, only the shell of zinc and iron remaining. This was the fate of the Prince Alfred Hall, and the only consolation was that the accident had not occurred when the building was full of people. In consequence of the fire, the ball was postponed until after the supper, when the courthouse, in which the supper was laid, had been cleared of the tables.

The Duke of Edinburgh left Bendigo on the morning of the 20th December. The day was one of mourning on Bendigo, for

the flags which had been fluttering in the breeze in honor of the royal visitor, were hoisted half-mast out of respect to the memory of the three boys of the "Galatea." The flags had, indeed, been hoisted half-mast on the previous day at the Duke's request. The Duke subsequently donated £50 towards the monument fund. The funeral of the boys was largely attended by our most prominent citizens, the funeral services being conducted by Dr. Backhaus and the Rev. Father Kavanagh and the Rev. W. R. Croxton.

The visit of the Duke of Edinburgh to Bendigo was rendered memorable in more ways than one, and not the least, although they possess a grim aspect, are the memorials which mark the graves of the three lads who lost their lives on the 18th December, 1867.

On the 12th March, 1868, when the news was received of the attempted assassination of the Duke at Sydney by a man named O'Farrell, intense indignation was aroused, and public meetings were held throughout the district expressing the public feeling. The news of the recovery of the Prince was hailed with great satisfaction in Bendigo, thanksgiving services being held in the churches.

The retirement of such a business firm from Bendigo as Francis Brothers was like the removal of one of the public institutions of the district, so long had the name been associated with the place. Their retirement took place in March, 1868. Not only were Francis Brothers among the first storekeepers who came to Bendigo, but there were barely a dozen persons resident in Bendigo in 1868 who were in Bendigo when the firm first commenced business in the early part of 1852. In the golden days of Golden Gully, as early as February in that year, Mr. John Francis first established his store there; when Bendigo was unknown and the diggings were for the most part confined to the locality around Golden Gully, or what is now Golden Square. In the following year another of the brothers, Mr. Richard Francis, opened another branch store at Eaglehawk, which had just then been discovered and rushed. About this time others of the brothers opened branch stores at Tarrangower and the new goldfields, which, in those days, were rapidly being discovered, and a large canvas store was opened by the firm in Camp Street, where business was carried on for a while, until the

town of Sandhurst was properly laid out, and properties in Pall Mall became valuable as business sites. Francis Brothers then opened their store on the present site of the Beehive, the premises being mostly composed of weatherboards. As business increased—and it did increase greatly under the able management of Mr. R. Francis—additions were made to the premises in brick and stone, until in 1863 another allotment was purchased and a handsome structure erected. Since their establishment in Bendigo death had removed two of the brothers, viz., Richard and William. There are many persons on Bendigo to-day to whom in days long since past the names of Francis Brothers were "household words." The old firm was succeeded by that of Messrs. Buick and Co.

On the 7th February, 1871, what was said to be the heaviest rain and the severest flood ever experienced on Bendigo, took place. Very heavy rain fell from an early hour, and Charing Cross, High Street, Pall Mall, Bridge Street, and the reserve were completely flooded, the shops being invaded by the waters. A similar flood occurred a fortnight afterwards.

The first Easter Fair on Bendigo was held in April, 1871, being opened by His Excellency the Governor, Viscount Canterbury. The movement was inaugurated mainly by Mr. G. Aspinall and Mr. J. Burnside. It has been taken up very heartily every year since then, and the Hospital and Benevolent Asylum have benefited largely. The profits have not been so great in recent years as they were formerly. In the earlier years the movement was more generally supported, and local amateurs took part in the various entertainments. In 1871 the total proceeds from the Fair were £3,749 14s. 3d. The expenses were only £1,189 14s. 3d., and the charities each received £1,280. A glance at the table we give on the following page will show how the rate of the expenses of the undertaking increased as years went on. The most successful year was 1872, and the least successful 1877. The total gross proceeds from the twenty Fairs which have been held were £50,205 0s. 9d., and of this sum £23,623 2s. 9d. have been divided equally between the charities. In 1890 and 1891 Senior-constable Barry was instrumental in securing several hundred loads of wood as donations to the charities.

EASTER FAIR RECEIPTS AND AMOUNTS PAID TO HOSPITAL AND ASYLUM FROM 1871 TO 1891 INCLUSIVE.

Year.	Gross Receipts.	Amount to Hospital.	Amount to Asylum.
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
1871	3,749 14 3	1,280 0 0	1,280 0 0
1872	4,482 4 9	1,499 7 10	1,499 7 10
1873	3,972 17 7	1,115 0 0	1,115 0 0
1874	1,840 3 6	490 0 0	490 0 0
1875	1,604 12 8	265 0 0	265 0 0
1876	3,731 18 7	1,010 0 0	1,010 0 0
1877	1,598 10 1	217 2 0	217 2 0
1878	2,396 6 5	580 0 0	580 0 0
1879	1,312 10 0	375 0 0	375 0 0
1880	2,447 14 3	318 1 6	318 1 6
1881	1,805 9 4	561 5 1	561 5 1
1882	2,150 13 10½	533 5 6	533 5 6
1883	1,418 18 4	225 0 0	225 0 0
1884	1,718 1 6	379 19 5½	379 19 5½
1885	2,463 4 0	575 0 0	575 0 0
1886	3,235 8 6	800 0 0	800 0 0
1887	1,361 16 6	225 0 0	225 0 0
1888	2,192 3 3½	380 0 0	380 0 0
1889	2,855 10 9	537 10 0	537 10 0
1890	2,157 9 11	200 0 0	200 0 0
1891	1,709 13 8	345 0 0	345 0 0

A much less expensive method of augmenting the funds of the local charities was originated in 1873 by Mr. J. H. Abbott, M.L.C. This was Hospital Sunday. The success which had attended this movement in Birmingham induced Mr. Abbott to try it here, and with such success that Melbourne and the other centres of population in Victoria followed suit. Hospital Sunday has since been an annual institution. In Bendigo it has resulted in over £12,000 being divided between the Hospital and Asylum during the eighteen years. Mr. Abbott has himself performed the most of the work incidental to the movement, work to which he has devoted himself with the utmost cheerfulness. We have said Hospital Sunday is much less expensive than the Easter Fair. Of course there is no comparison. On one occasion as much as seventy-five per cent. of the gross takings at the Easter Fair were swallowed up in expenses, which have never been less than thirty-one per cent. On the other hand, the expense of Hospital Sunday is more than covered by 2½ per cent. of the gross takings. We do not make these remarks in disparagement of the work done by our Easter Fair Committees. The conditions

in the two cases are not at all similar. Still, it is not too much to say that it is not a happy circumstance that out of every shilling paid by the public at the Easter Fair, something like ninepence should go in expenses. Hereunder will be found the Hospital Sunday receipts for each year. The amounts for the last seven years include the Hospital Saturday collections, which reach a total sum altogether of over £900. It should be mentioned that in the earlier years several sums reached the Hospital and Asylum direct :—

	£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.		£	s.	d.
1873 ...	1,036	10	0	1879 ...	638	18	4	1885 ...	825	7	11½
1874 ...	627	7	4	1880 ...	543	19	1	1886 ...	736	4	7
1875 ...	486	0	4	1881 ...	543	5	0	1887 ...	784	14	10
1876 ...	749	18	4	1882 ...	563	3	7	1888 ...	831	5	1
1877 ...	603	0	6	1883 ...	597	7	9	1889 ...	784	19	7
1878 ...	660	0	3	1884 ...	746	2	4	1890 ...	688	18	9

Total, £12,447 3s. 7d.

The departure of Mr. M'Lachlan from Bendigo was a notable event in the annals of the district. He presided on the Bench for the last time on the 31st May, 1871, and in the following month, the citizens took a formal farewell of him at the banquet which had been arranged with the two-fold object of celebrating the inauguration of the Old Bendigonians' Society, and bidding him adieu. On the 10th July, 1871, Mr. M'Lachlan was presented with a purse containing 700 sovereigns by the public of Bendigo, the presentation being made by Mr. M'Intyre in the presence of a number of the citizens at the Shamrock Hotel.

"I always thought we would have the pleasure of burying you here, Mr. M'Lachlan," said an old lady to Bendigo Mac. shortly after his approaching departure was announced. Mr. M'Lachlan, who related the story, said he had not much doubt about the lady's nationality. Mr. M'Lachlan died in August, 1885, at the age of seventy-six.

CHAPTER VIII.

Sandhurst (Bendigo) as a City.

"While time shall last
Endure, and die but with the dying world."

—*Ovid.*

1871-91.—Sandhurst Proclaimed a City—The Fire at the Beehive—Improvements—Sales of Allotments and Buildings—Eight Hours in Mines—Attempts to Reduce Miners' Wages—Outbreak of Small-pox—The Old Bendigonians' Society—Visit of Ballarat Pioneers—The State Schools—First Boards of Advice—An extraordinary Escape—Railway Accident—Great Flood—First Juvenile Exhibition—A Strange Case—Lake Weeroona The Census of 1881—Visit of Princes Albert and George of Wales—Opening of the Alexandra Fountain—The Telephone—Lake Neangar—Mysterious Disappearance—Juvenile Industrial Exhibition—The Queen's Jubilee—The Electric Tramways—The Census of 1891—Noted Visitors.

SANDHURST became a city in 1871, and by reason of the rich yields from its gold reefs in the same and two following years, its name was on almost every tongue, both far and near. This bright period in its history is dealt with in our chapters on "Mining Development" however, and we shall not dwell upon it here.

The destruction of the Beehive by fire occurred on the 25th August, 1871. The fire originated in the office of Messrs. Haynes and Snow, and was first observed about six o'clock in the morning. It had then burned its way through the floor into the drapery shop below, and an hour afterwards the two stores were on fire from end to end. The firemen could hardly do more than prevent the progress of the flames to the adjoining buildings, but a partially successful effort was made to save Moore Bros'. store. The fire was prevented from extending to the rear by iron fire-proof doors dividing the front premises from

those facing Hargreaves Street. The work of destruction was very great. The basement story of the Beehive was divided into three extensive stores, two of which were occupied by the proprietors of the premises, Messrs. Buick and Co., and the third by Messrs. Moore Bros. The upper story of the main building fronting Pall Mall was apportioned out as offices, which, to the number of between forty and fifty, were in the occupation of the legal managers of the mining companies and stock and share brokers. The entire building was composed of brick and stone, the three stores of the basement being divided by strong walls of brick. These front premises were entirely destroyed, the iron doors as already stated preventing the extension of the fire to the rear. As scarcely any of the legal managers had safes, all descriptions of valuable papers relating to mining were lost in the flames, and burnt scrip was carried by the wind all over the city. The burning of the Beehive was not an object of interest to one or two men, but to the whole bulk of the population. At first people appeared unable to understand what would be the ultimate result. To this question no answer could be returned. Many thought the companies had been absolutely thrown out of existence. The market had, during the previous evening, been in a most excited state, and stocks had been dealt in to an alarming extent. The consequence was that no one knew what would be the best course to pursue. Men had entered into liabilities of a most extensive character, when they found themselves thrown out of the chance of obtaining money to meet them, simply because they could not deliver scrip which had been burned while in transfer. The number of persons who suffered through carelessness in not taking down the number of scrip when sending them in for transfer was large. Some absolutely did not know the number of the scrip, the person purchased from, or the name of the scrip. Messrs. Buick and Co. were insured in various offices to the amount of £42,000 and Messrs. Moore Bros. and Co. were insured to the extent of £6,000.

This disaster compelled the legal managers to find premises elsewhere, and while the new building which was proceeded with immediately, was being erected, the "Verandah" habitues took up their quarters at the Shamrock. The new Beehive (the present building) was completed in June, 1872, at a cost of £27,000.

The City Family Hotel, of which Mr. J. C. Hadley was the lessee and Mr. J. B. Loridan the owner, was completed in November, 1872. So general was the prosperity of the town that great activity resulted in the building trade, and numerous public buildings were going up in all directions. In June, 1873, many improvements had been effected, notably in Howard Place.

An allotment of land adjoining the Warden's Court, containing $26\frac{8}{10}$ perches, was on the 31st December, 1872, sold at the Government land sale; the upset price per acre was £1,500, and the improvements were valued at £1,067. The purchaser was Mr. A. England, for the sum of £730, which, added to the valuation, made £1,797. As an indication of the value of property in the previous year, it may be mentioned that on the 13th December, 1871, the Lyceum Stores and Rainbow Hotel were purchased by Messrs. Moore Bros. from Messrs. Woodward and Co. for £8,000.

The Eight Hours' movement in connection with the mines, which had been allowed to die out some years previously, was revived in 1871 with the prosperity of the times. The wages question engaged attention in the same year, a meeting to protest against a proposed reduction of miners' wages being held at the Lyceum Theatre in February, 1872. It was out of this movement that the old Bendigo Miners' Association sprang into existence. Meetings in connection with the wages question were held at Long Gully, Eaglehawk, and other parts of the district. The movement to maintain the rate of wages resulted successfully. On the 29th March a picnic was held at Ravenswood, under the auspices of the Bendigo Miners' Association. The demonstration was a great success. An open-air meeting was held, at which Mr. Robert Clark, president of the Association, occupied the chair. Resolutions were carried, thanking the great majority of mining employers for conceding the eight hours' system, and supporting the miners in their resistance of the efforts on the part of a few companies to reduce the wages from £2 5s. to £2 2s. per week.

Eight hours was recognised as the period of labour for the miner after this, and in 1873 Mr. Mackay legalised the system in his "Regulation of Mines Act." In later years, through the instrumentality of Mr. Bailes, the eight hours was made to include what is known as the miners' "crib" time. Since 1872

TOWN HALL, EAGLEHAWK.

the wages of miners have only once been the subject of dispute. This was in August, 1879, when an effort was made to reduce them from £2 5s. to £2, and the result was an extensive strike. Public meetings were held in support of the miners, both at Bendigo and Eaglehawk, the following gentlemen espousing the cause of the men :—Messrs. Clark, Mackay, M'Intyre, Williams, Moore and Casey, M's.L.A., and Messrs. Sterry, Burrowes, Blackham, Collmann, Willan, Hall, Kirkwood, Kneebone, Cook, Trumble and others. The representatives of some twenty-eight companies had met and resolved to reduce the rate of wages to £2 per week, but they afterwards relaxed a little and agreed to £2 2s. per week. This did not meet with approval, and 300 miners went out in October. The strike was at length settled by the mine-owners giving in to the demands of the men, owing to the pressure brought to bear by the Government, who threatened the mine-owners with the pains and penalties of non-fulfilment of the labour covenants.

There was an outbreak of small-pox in Bendigo in July, 1872. The cases occurred at Long Gully in a most malignant form, in a family recently arrived from America, and persons who had come into contact with the family also took the disease, one in Long Gully and another in Job's Gully. Three children of the first-mentioned family died.

The second annual reunion of the Old Bendigonians' Society was held on the 25th September, 1872, and was attended by representatives of the Ballarat Pioneers. Even at this time the gaps in the ranks of members owing to deaths were numerous. In December of the next year several members of the Old Bendigonians' Society visited Ballarat at the invitation of the Pioneers. The anniversary of the Society was celebrated subsequently by a picnic at the Murray River, and several of the Ballarat Pioneers were present.

The new Education Act came into operation in January, 1873, and on the 13th January the schools in Bendigo were literally rushed, and it was found that everywhere the school accommodation was utterly insufficient. The new Corn Exchange had to be converted into a schoolroom and was crowded with children of all denominations and classes. The Presbyterian school became a State school with 600 scholars on the roll ; the Catholic schools also became State schools, and were crowded to overflowing.

The members of the first Board of Advice in Bendigo were Messrs. H. Hattam, J. H. Abbott, J. M'Intyre, R. Strickland J. Stewart, James Fraser, and John Dawborn. The first Board of Advice at Eaglehawk consisted of Messrs. W. Cook, G. Willan, A. Hay, J. Lester, E. Morris, J. Berryman, and T. G. Williams.

In December, a miner named M'Caviston, working at the Hustler's Reef Company's mine, had an extraordinary escape. A rush of water from the adjoining mine into the 530 feet level made him go to the bottom of the shaft to warn four men working there. They had left, however, and on M'Caviston trying to ascend the shaft he was beaten back, and ultimately retreated into the 665 feet crosscut. He went to the end of it, 140 feet from the shaft, and the water rose up in the crosscut. Here he got on to a mulloch heap about five feet high; there was a slight rise in the crosscut, and by the time the mouth of it was covered by the water, the water was only round the foot of the mulloch heap. The water, as it fell down the shaft, pressed the air back into this chamber, and though it rose sixty-five feet in the shaft, the elasticity of the confined air kept it out of the end of the crosscut, and also the twenty feet of driving on each side, so that M'Caviston had some 4,000 cubic feet of air to breathe. Everybody gave him up for lost, but the pumps were kept going, and after twenty-seven hours' imprisonment he was discovered alive and well amidst great rejoicing.

A very severe storm was experienced in Bendigo on the 12th February, 1877, and in consequence of a portion of the railway embankment at Epsom being washed away, the engine of the 4.45 a.m. train to Echuca, ran off the line. The whole of the goods' trucks were smashed by the accident, and a large quantity of goods destroyed. There were only four persons in the train, and they all escaped with their lives, the only one receiving serious injury being the engine-driver. The estimated damage was £5,000. Nearly four inches of rain were recorded during the night.

A great flood which occurred on the 19th April, 1878, caused damage to property in the heart of the city to the extent of £10,000, but the occurrence led to the reconstruction of the Charing Cross Bridge on such a scale as to prevent any similar disaster in subsequent years.

In March, 1879, the first Juvenile Industrial Exhibition in Bendigo was opened in the Town Hall and temporary annexes. The opening ceremony was performed by His Excellency the Marquis of Normanby, it being the first visit of that nobleman to Bendigo. He met with a hearty reception from the townspeople. The Exhibition was very popular, and remained open for several months. There were 518 adult and 1,174 juvenile exhibitors. The Exhibition remained open from the last week of March till the end of June, and during this period 88,406 visitors paid for admission, made up of 51,056 children and 37,350 adults. Besides, there were season ticket-holders to the number of 1,226, which brought the total up to 89,632. The awards were as follows:—Gold medals, 78; silver medals, 264; bronze medals, 247; certificates, 282; and money awards, £67 3s. 6d. After all expenses, a surplus of £1,000 remained, and this sum, supplemented by £500 from Mr. George Lansell, was spent in the erection of the handsome Alexandra Fountain at Charing Cross.

In September, 1879, an extraordinary case of concealment of sex came to light in Bendigo, when the sex of a woman, who for twenty years had passed under the name of Edward de Lacy Evans, and had worked as a miner, became known. Evans had been charged with being a lunatic, being remanded to the lunacy ward of the Bendigo Hospital, and subsequently to the Kew Asylum, where her sex was discovered. The most singular part of the affair was that Evans had been a married woman in America, but had been married as a man four times in Victoria.

Lake Weeroona was opened on the 22nd October, 1879, by Councillor Burrowes. There was a procession of boats and a regatta. The citizens have reason to be proud of this sheet of water, especially when they remember what a barren waste the site was, before the Council enclosed it as a reserve, and prepared it for the purposes of a lake. Since 1879 the reserve has been greatly improved, and is now one of the most attractive spots in the city.

The census of 1881 showed the population of Bendigo to be 14,577 males and 14,087 females, or a total of 28,662. Eaglehawk contained 3,786 males and 3,615 females, or a total of 7,401. The educational returns showed the attendance to

be as follows:—City of Sandhurst — Eleven State Schools attendance, 5,135; fourteen private schools, attendance, 1,253. Borough of Eaglehawk—Three State Schools, attendance, 1,559; four private schools, attendance, 132.

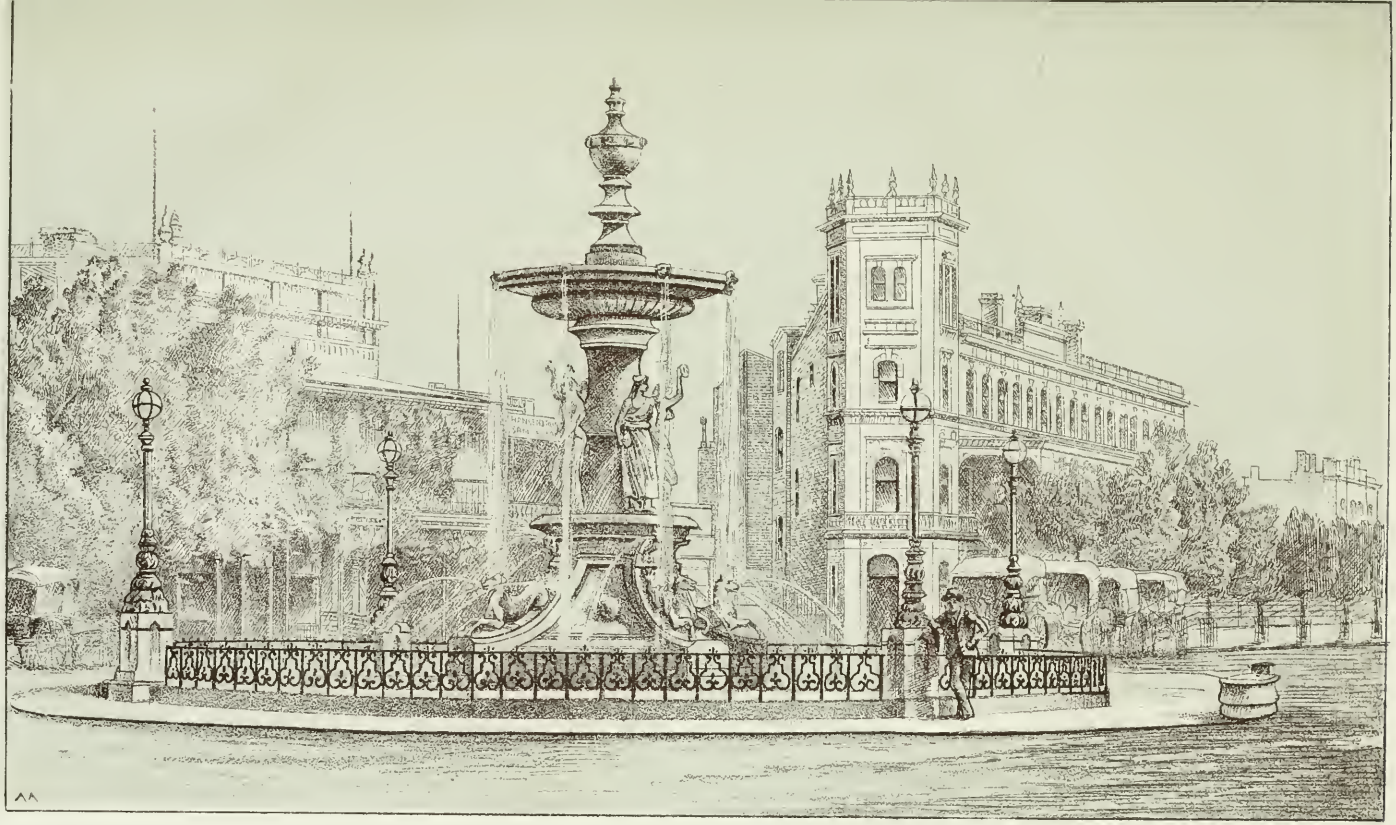
Their Royal Highnesses the Princes Albert Victor and George, sons of the Prince of Wales, visited Bendigo on the 5th July, 1881. They each planted a tree at the Bridge Street entrance to the reserve, to match the two planted at the View Street entrance in 1863, in honour of the marriage of their illustrious parents. Prince Albert opened the Alexandra Fountain, and both princes visited the mines, and attended a ball in honour of their visit. The city was brilliantly illuminated, and the population turned out *en masse* to welcome the Royal visitors.

August, 1882, was notable for the introduction in Bendigo of the telephone. Mr. J. H. Abbott was the first to construct a line between his business premises and his private house. Mr. J. W. Faul did the same, and before very long a Telephone Exchange was established, and this great invention is now used by many business people.

The transformation by the City Council of the barren wilderness near the gasworks into Lake Weeroona, led the Council of Eaglehawk to form a lake below Canterbury Park. This fine sheet of water, under the title of Lake Neangar, was opened on the 12th December, 1883, by the Mayor of the Borough, Mr. Loudon.

The month of January, 1886, was rendered eventful by the mysterious disappearance of Constable Ryan, about whom no trace has been discovered from the day he disappeared—6th January—to the present time. It was suspected that he had been made away with by Chinese, but no traces of foul play were discovered. Heavy rain fell on the night he was last seen, and it was feared that he might have fallen down a shaft. Diligent search was made, but with no result, and the disappearance of Constable Ryan, who was a very popular member of the force, is still unexplained.

Towards the close of 1886, a very successful Juvenile and Industrial Exhibition, inaugurated by the Miners' Association, was opened by Sir Henry Loch at the Town Hall and Market, the two buildings being connected, as in 1879, by a temporary structure.



ALEXANDRA FOUNTAIN, CHARING CROSS.

(From a photograph kindly lent by Mr. S. T. King.)

On the 27th February, 1877, a terrible explosion occurred at Arblaster's powder factory, near Eaglehawk, which resulted in the loss of eight lives, and the total destruction of the factory. Mr. Arblaster has had a series of misfortunes with the factory, it having been destroyed on three subsequent occasions, and Mr. Arblaster himself having sustained serious injury.

The Jubilee of Her Majesty Queen Victoria was celebrated in a royal manner by the people of Bendigo and Eaglehawk, as in all parts of the British Empire. The weather on the 21st June, 1887, was rather unfavourable, and damped the festivities to a considerable extent. There was a procession of 10,000 State school children, headed by Major Palliser and the Imperial Band and 200 cadets. This large gathering of children was a great sight. The mayor and town clerk and city councillors, and Messrs. Burrowes and Bailes and Dr. Quick, Ms.L.A., and the Jubilee committee of management, followed the school children, thereafter coming the fire brigades, the various societies and bands. On arriving at the Show Grounds, the mayor (Cr. Hayes) delivered an address to those assembled. Tonite bombs were let off, and the National Anthem was sung by the gathering, led by Mr. A. T. Crook. Medals commemorative of the occasion were distributed amongst the children. At night the city was brilliantly illuminated, the general effect being something worth remembering. At Eaglehawk there was a procession to the Park, headed by the borough brass band and including the mayor (Cr. Willan) and the borough councillors, Messrs. M'Coll and Highett, Ms.L.A., and 3,000 State school children, headed by a detachment of cadets. On arriving at the Park, the mayor delivered an address, and a *feu de joie* was fired by the cadets, followed by the National Anthem. Medals were then presented to the children, and in the afternoon sports were held. A memorial tree was planted at the head of Lake Neangar by Mrs. Willan, and called the "Queen's Oak." Eaglehawk was illuminated at night in honour of the occasion.

In May, 1888, a tramway conference was held between the Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Councils, and the tender of Messrs. Booth, Ellson and Co. for the construction of electric tramways was accepted. The Tramway Company was floated on the 26th May, and the line from Bendigo to Eaglehawk was completed, the company's plant was erected, and the cars arrived in

time to make a start in June, 1890. The storage system of electricity proved a failure however, and after some delay the company obtained permission from the municipal bodies interested to apply the overhead system instead. In 1891 the company was wound up, and at the time of writing, the Municipal Councils were negotiating with a new company, which proposed to make a start, with the aid of steam traction, by December.

In May, 1891, the Minister of Public Works, in response to the request of 4,000 petitioners and a six to one majority at a vote of the ratepayers, changed the name of the city from Sandhurst to its old and best known name of Bendigo.

In the same month the returns of the Census, which was taken in April, were made known as follows:—City of Bendigo—Males, 13,094; females, 13,641; total, 26,735. Eaglehawk—Males, 3,610; females, 3,585; total, 7,195. Huntly—Males, 1,920; females, 1,483; total, 3,403. Marong—Males, 4,006; females, 3,341; total, 7,347. Strathfieldsaye—Males, 1,808; females, 1,520; total, 3,328. Raywood—total, 470. The number of dwellings was as follows:—Bendigo, 5,817; Eaglehawk, 1,639; Marong, 1,668; Huntly, 780; Strathfieldsaye, 751; and Raywood, 110.

In the present and previous chapters we have referred to the visits of members of the Royal family and representatives of the Crown, and it will not be out of place to mention at this stage that in recent years Mr. Froude, the historian, and Lord Rosebery both spent a few hours in the city, making themselves acquainted with its "lions" and resources. While they saw Bendigo in its "modern" days, it was the privilege of the present Premier of Great Britain, Lord Salisbury, to see it in its pristine glory as a goldfield, in 1852. He was then Lord Robert Cecil, and was making a tour of the world after completing his University course. His visit was ostensibly for the purpose of noting colonial constitutions and forms of government. As Victoria had no constitution then, he could gather little information under that head during his visit to this colony, but his brief sojourn on Bendigo gave him an insight into the life and occupation of the digger, which we have described at length in earlier chapters. It is generally understood that he donned the digger's clothes, and worked below ground himself, and also baked his damper, and lived generally like others of the class. A weatherboard building

LORD SALISBURY'S LODGINGS IN 1852, AS THEY APPEAR IN 1891.

(From a photograph by Bartlett Brothers).

in which he is said to have resided part of the time may still be seen at the White Hills. We have the authority of Mr. G. F. Walter, an old Bendigo resident, for stating that the house was built by the Colonial Gold Company for their manager, Mr. Thomas Comer, in 1852, and it was while he lived in it, pending the building of the brick cottage in front, that the present Prime Minister of England lodged there for a time as Mr. Comer's guest. Both buildings are now owned and occupied by Mr. J. W. Dower, Cambridge Crescent.

CHAPTER IX.

Mining Development.

"Father of flatterers, Gold, of pain and care begot,
A fear it is to have thee, and a pain to have thee not."
—*Palladus.*

1851 to 1860.—The Days of Alluvial Mining—Nuggets—Mr. Westgarth's Visit—The White Hills—A Fatal Accident—"Bendigo Worked Out"—Other Fields—The Sludge Question—The Quartz Reefs.

THE early stages of the alluvial era of gold mining on Bendigo have been described in our opening pages, and we desire now to place before the reader a complete account of the search for the golden treasure, which has continued since 1851 to the present day.

At the time when the events narrated in our first chapter occurred, Melbourne and Geelong had almost been deserted by their male population. A correspondent writing from the latter place to the *Argus* in December, 1851, said "If the women and children would only go to the diggings we might placard Geelong with 'This town to let.'" The yield from the Bendigo field in 1851 is officially stated to be 200,000 ounces. In 1852 the field continued to yield enormously, especially towards the close, but 1853 was the best year, the yield being 661,749 ounces, as against 475,857 ounces in 1852. Though not a field famous for very large nuggets there were some of very satisfactory dimensions, amongst which may be mentioned the "Victoria," which was bought by the Legislature, for presentation to the Queen, for £1,650, and the "Dascombe," sold in London for £1,500. Some enormously rich yields from small quantities of stuff are recorded, as we have already shown in our first chapter.

The following information in reference to the principal nuggets found on Bendigo is from Mr. Brough Smyth's *Goldfields and Mineral Districts of Victoria.*

A nugget weighing 573 ounces was found in October, 1852, at White Horse Gully. It was partly encrusted with quartz, and was valued at £2,100.

The "Victoria" nugget, weighing 340 ounces, was found in the White Horse Gully in September, 1852. Its surface was partly encrusted with quartz and oxide of iron.

The "Dascombe" nugget, 332 ounces, was found close to the last mentioned, amongst gravel, about a foot from the surface.

A nugget weighing 288 ounces was found in Bendigo in the same year.

A nugget weighing 338 ozs. 17 dwts. was found in Bendigo in 1854.

A nugget weighing 377 ozs. 6 dwts. was found at Robinson Crusoe Gully, in a deserted claim, in 1861.

In his account of his visit to Bendigo in 1853, Mr. Westgarth says that as he approached the goldfield, the scenery became more of a common place order, with a dusty aspect ahead. Out-skirting tents with hobbled and tethered cattle and horses, indicated the vicinity of the celebrated goldfield of Bendigo, the appearance of which was decidedly more imposing from a commercial and gold seeking point of view than that of Forest Creek. "The scale of operations, past or present, seemed larger. The stores and tents seemed more numerous; the roads were certainly broader and more beaten down with traffic. At Forest Creek, the diggings formed comparatively a strip of the valley; here the whole scene before us was one vast diggings." In his observations on the diggings, Mr. Westgarth said:—

> The diggings here appeared to me on a more elaborate scale, and more indicative of arts and appliances than at Forest Creek. Tunnelling, for instance, was more common. On looking down a hole some twenty feet deep, frequently no object was observable beneath; but on adventuring a loud halloo, a response would arise from the chambers of the solid deep, followed by an ochre-coloured figure emerging on hands and knees into the visible world. He bears perhaps a bucket full of the ochreous earth or gravel, that gives the golden aspect to his person, and he is not disposed to make his appearance to your call until he has filled up his bucket, and so avoided for himself an

extra series of movements, and the time thereby involved to the whole party.

We came upon a party of four, who were excavating upon a more wholesale scale than was hitherto customary. They had cut out an oblong square of about eighteen feet by twelve, and with perpendicular sides, had got down about six feet. At one corner they had got somewhat deeper, having the usual impatience to touch the more auriferous beds ever associated with deep digging, and at this part, just at the moment we came upon the party, the point of one of the picks had gone through into an empty space beneath. We found them greatly nonplussed, and gazing with marked vexation and disappointment on the dark suspicious crevice that had just been exposed. They perfectly comprehended that diggers from adjacent pits had been there before them, and had long ago, perhaps, scooped out all the richer material for whose sake they had so elaborately commenced operations.

Describing the White Hills, the same writer says :—

We found the diggings penetrating to a depth of fifty feet perpendicular. Seeing a windlass at work over one of the pits, we made for the spot, and met a bucketful of the material as it reached the surface. This was a description of auriferous matter that I had never met with before. It consisted of a white quartz grit between sand and small gravel of very uniform appearance. It was evidently very auriferous, for the gold was quite visible to the eye, scattered in small particles throughout the grit. This was more particularly the case in portions that were discoloured of a reddish brown, apparently from a mixture of iron. Feeling some curiosity to explore so promising a mine, I adventured a descent by a rude ladder consisting of a straight sapling with cross pieces for steps, driven through the stem. "I guess it's twenty-five feet to the bottom," said a voice from below in answer to our enquiry. . . . . At the foot of the pit I found two men with lighted candles, who guided me into the side workings. These were entered most easily upon all fours ; for the auriferous stream being quite thin, no more of other material was excavated than was absolutely necessary. Tunnelling was continuous over the entire hill, the claimants and their claims having repeatedly encountered, and run into each other. A system of under propping by posts was also in operation to prevent any subsidence of the upper beds. The auriferous grit I have alluded to was a distinct bed of between one and two inches in thickness, of a dull grayish white colour in the upper part, the lower being uniformly, as far as my observations went, of the reddish brown hue already alluded to. The stratum beneath the auriferous grit was the famous and universal pipeclay, which appears almost everywhere in this colony in some form or hue. A few inches of the upper part of this pipeclay was taken out and washed with the auriferous grit, and about three feet of additional depth was cleared away to form a convenient passage for the diggers. Their account of the yield of the grit was to the effect that a bucketful gave them between two and three ounces of gold after washing, and that a cartload would give nearly two pounds weight.

One serious and fatal accident was reported on the day of our visit, and was of a peculiar character. A depth of about twelve feet in excavating a pit had

brought the miners to some porous bed, through which the water began to ooze into the hole, threatening to render the claim useless. An experienced digger would most likely at this point have at once decided to abandon the place as hopeless. The party, however, determined to stick to their labours, and commenced bailing out. After a brief attempt, during which the increasing waters had by degrees undermined the pit, the sides began to fall in and a stick was lowered in order to pull up one of the men who had remained below. This could not, however, be accomplished, although the influx of earth and water had as yet reached only to his knees. In great alarm, therefore, a rope was next procured, which gave the man a better hold. But this also proved in vain, and the immersion was now beyond the middle. Before any fastening could be effected on the person of the sufferer, the crisis was already at hand. He could not be extricated, and a harrowing spectacle awaited a surrounding crowd, who could scarcely credit the scene before them of a fellow-creature deliberately perishing almost within touch of a hundred able and anxious arms that were yet, in the hurry of the moment and in the absence of available apparatus, quite powerless for any succour.

Parties of diggers were now (in the month of December, 1853), congregating on the banks of the Bendigo Creek, where, during the winter, it had been impossible to work. A considerable portion of ground between View Point and Golden Square had recently been taken up. Long Gully appeared to be the most thickly populated of the gullies to the west, and a considerable quantity of gold was being obtained there, notwithstanding the scarcity of water. In Ironbark Gully the population was thinning fast, and in Eaglehawk Gully this was particularly the case, the scene being a great contrast to that of a few months before. In travelling over the Bendigo diggings at this time one could not help being struck by the vast extent of country over which profitable deposits of gold had been found. The noble sweeping outlines of the long slopes, the undulating appearance of the whole country, the rounded hills, capped with trees, contrasting with the bare appearance of the gullies and slopes, and the numberless white tents all reposing quietly beneath the splendour of an Australian sun, irresistibly challenged admiration, and formed a picture which, once seen, was not easily forgotten. There was an idea of vastness conveyed by the Bendigo diggings which was wanting in other goldfields. The Turon and the Ovens possessed more beautiful scenery, but they were like pigmies compared to this mammoth El Dorado.

It was generally considered at this time that affairs on the goldfield were in a very depressed condition, and the fact that

Bendigo had nothing except its gold to depend upon, forced itself upon the population. The goldfield was "worked out" was the cry, and unless some fresh discoveries were made in the neighbourhood, it was felt that recovery from the general depression was very problematical. It was suggested that prospecting parties should be formed, and the Goverment petitioned. And these remarks were made while, a few hundred feet below, were the reefs which only required to be reached and worked to bring to the district a new era of prosperity. The subject of second bottoms was exciting considerable interest among all classes. The *Argus* correspondent (Mr. A. Mackay), writing at this time on the subject of second bottoms, and of successive deposits of gold found at various depths, said there was no doubt of their existence, and that these successive deposits had been worked to advantage at various goldfields. In all cases which had come under his observation the several bottoms had been alluvial deposits of gravel, sand or clay above the bed rock, or the bed rock itself. An energetic attempt was being made to settle the question between the first and second White Hills, where four men had sunk a hole 112 feet, but want of funds was operating against the venture. Similar attempts were made in Long Gully, California Gully, Eaglehawk and Sailors' Gully, but, owing to want of judgment in the selection of sites for sinking, the time and labour was thrown away. It was felt that anything like this in the way of experiment should have been superintended by those scientifically and practically acquainted with the subject.

There was a decrease in the gold yield on Bendigo early in 1854, and, as new discoveries were made at Tarrengower and at Mounts Moliagul and Korong, the population on Bendigo showed signs of thinning. Diggers were still doing well on Bendigo, however, and a party during one week took twenty-six pounds weight of gold out of a hole near the creek above View Point. In March there were signs of greater activity, and with the advent of rain, it was expected there would be an increase in the gold yield. These expectations were realised, the escorts taking larger quantities of gold to Melbourne—the amount in one week reaching 17,545 ounces.

There were unmistakable indications, however, that the alluvial gold deposits were becoming exhausted, but the presence of gold

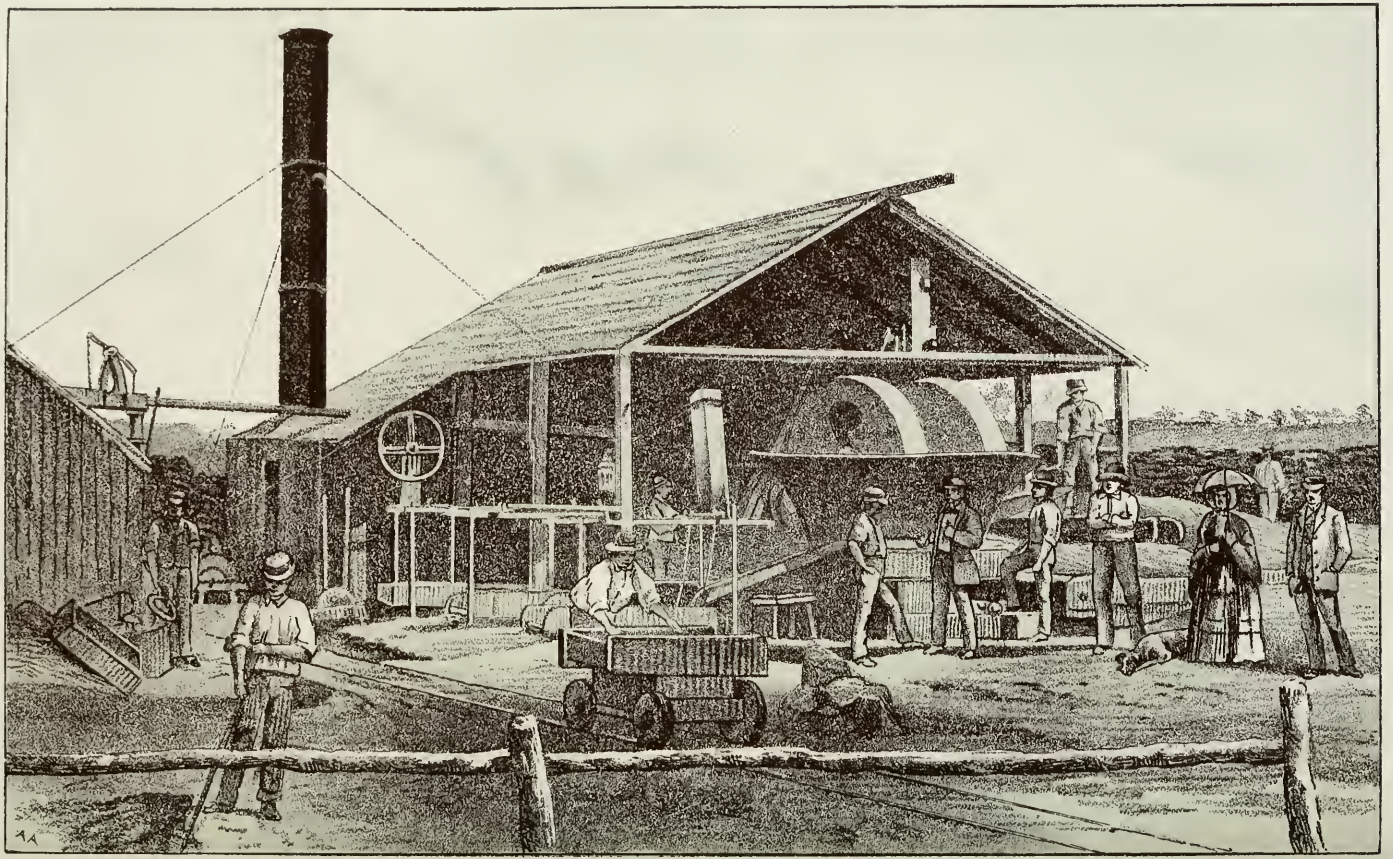
in the quartz reefs had already begun to make itself known. Mr. Haverfield, editor of the *Bendigo Advertiser*, who had continuously directed attention to this subject, even when the idea was generally scouted, now strenuously advocated quartz mining, and expressed the belief that the localities in which alluvial mining had been richest, were in the vicinity of quartz reefs. He considered that the hope could be reasonably entertained, especially in the face of the assurances from gentlemen employed in gold mining on Bendigo, that "the miners were now entering upon a field of far greater importance as regards both its yield and permanency than any hitherto worked in the richest gold countries on the globe." This opinion was shared by the *Argus* correspondent, who said about this time that it was known as a fact that some scores of parties, working only with gads and hammers, and crushing quartz in the rudest possible way, were making thrice the ordinary wages of diggers, and still the certain and undeveloped treasures of the quartz veins were being overlooked. He expressed the greatest surprise that capitalists had not turned their attention to the auriferous quartz of Bendigo, which, in many instances, must yield several ounces to the ton. Claims were taken up in August on a vein which cropped out on the dividing range between Eaglehawk, Pegleg and Sailors' Gully. It struck into Eaglehawk, just above the spot where the famous surface diggings were discovered, crossed the gully, and appeared on the ridge between it and Job's Gully. It then crossed California and Long Gullies, cropping out on the east side of the latter, where a number of parties were engaged in quarrying out the quartz; continuing its course it crossed Ironbark Gully near its head, and here again it cropped out on the east side and furnished employment to numbers of enterprising miners. This vein was only one of the many which intersected the district and various gullies, and which had, in times previous, furnished the immense quantities of alluvial gold which had been dug out of Bendigo.

The goldfields at Maryborough attracted a large number of the diggers from Bendigo, but the gold yields on the latter field continued to average 10,000 ounces weekly. In October, 1854, several enterprising tradesmen, among whom may be mentioned Mr. Irons, Captain Bell and Mr. Hustler, were engaged in procuring and fixing extensive machinery for the purpose of

crushing the auriferous quartz of the district. The advent of these machines was looked upon as marking the commencement of a new era.

The sludge question had long been regarded as a very important as well as a very serious question, by reason of the extent of puddling operations in the district. Attention had been given to the subject two years previously, when the resident warden advised the puddlers to form a sludge drain. Subsequently a public meeting of puddlers was held to receive the report of the result of an interview between Dr. Owens and Mr. Grant and the Commissioner of Public Works on the sludge question. The Commissioner stated that after the new channel was completed, the puddlers would be allowed to run the sludge into the water-course. So matters continued until 1858, when on the 3rd June a public meeting was held at the Shamrock concert hall for the purpose of objecting to the assessment of the puddlers (£12 for each machine per annum), as proposed in the new sludge bye-laws of the mining board, until such time as the Government should provide a main sludge channel for the district, and, further, to memorialise the Government to place a sum of money on the estimates for the construction of such a channel. Eventually the Government voted £4,000 for the construction of a sludge channel, and for some years thereafter the Council spent sums annually in its maintenance.

Great as were the yields from the alluvial diggings, Bendigo rests its fame upon its quartz reefs, which, for their richness, have been unrivalled in the world. Even the alluvial diggers were aware of the existence of gold in the out-cropping quartz reefs, but little attention was paid to the gold in this form while the alluvial diggings continued to yield rich returns. The time came, however, when, by the aid of machinery—at first of a primitive kind—the gold was extracted from the quartz. As we have already stated, Mr. R. R. Haverfield wrote ably and frequently in favour of the district as a quartz field, at a time when very many people were ready to declare that Bendigo was "worked out." He contended that the reefs would be found gold-bearing to any depths to which they might be followed, and that sinking ought not to be limited to a hundred feet or so, as advised by the geologists. How true a prophet he has proved it is needless to say. Considering the great services he rendered in



these early years by his encouraging articles on mining, his name must, of necessity, be associated with those of Ballerstedt, Wittscheibe, Luffsmann, Rœder, Touzeau, Lazarus, Koch, Hildebrandt, Bruhn, Nieman, Annear, Wells, Lansell, J. Watson, Latham, J. B. Watson, Mueller, Rae, Jackson, Woodward, Sterry, Burrowes, M'Intyre, Noy and others who have assisted to build up Bendigo's reputation as a quartz mining district.

Quartz mining on Bendigo was still pretty much in its infancy in 1858. During the last two years numerous reefs had been opened, and many of the old ones had been sunk to greater depths and been extensively worked. But an immense number yet remained untouched, while none could be said to have been worked out. Early in June there were shown some pieces of stone of extraordinary richness that had been obtained from a claim on the Garden Gully reef. The parties to whom the claim belonged had been for some time working stone that had only paid them from one and a-half ounces to two ounces to the ton. On the 31st May, however, they struck on a patch, and a few days after they were raising quartz which, judged by appearances, would go at least thirty ounces to the ton.

Early crushing machines on the goldfield were those of Mr. E. J. Ensor, at New Chum, Messrs. Nicholas and party at Specimen Hill, and Messrs. Young and Co., at Kangaroo Flat. These machines were at work in the year 1855.

Additions continued to be made daily to the mining machinery in the district. The district goldfield population in 1858 could be thus classified :—Residents, 28,928 ; miners, 11,627, which may be divided about as follows :—Engaged in quartz crushing, 859 ; puddlers, 2,130 ; sluicers, 32 ; leaving about 8,666 to represent the tub and cradle men and Chinese. The population within the municipal area was 12,500. A few words in reference to what is said to be the first quartz mining company formed on Bendigo will be of interest here. The meeting to form the company was held on the 30th June, 1857, at the Criterion Hotel. From thirty to forty persons were present, Mr. Burnside being voted to the chair. It was decided to call the company the " Bendigo Quartz Mining Company." The number of shares was fixed at fifty, and the contributions five shillings per share per week. An entrance fee of five shillings was imposed, the

amount to form a surplus fund. The following is a copy of a certificate of share :—

BENDIGO QUARTZ MINING COMPANY.

CERTIFICATE OF SHARE.

Sandhurst.....185

No. .....

We certify that Mr. ..... of .....
is the proprietor of One Share (numbered as above) of and in all mine or mines, ores, metals, machinery, moneys, and all profits of this Company, subject to the rules and regulations of the said Company.

Entd..... .....

.....Chairman.

.. ..Treasurer.

N.B.—Should this Share be sold, or otherwise disposed of, this Certificate, together with the authorised Form of Transfer, duly signed by the contracting parties, must be left with the Secretary ; nor shall the Secretary then register the same, unless all calls and arrears have been paid up.

At the beginning of 1859 the Camp Reserve was thrown open to the diggers, but they were not very successful, and the rush soon subsided.

The yields of gold from the quartz reefs continued steadily to increase, and many new leads had been opened at the end of February and the beginning of March with varied success. Some new crushing machinery was erected in various localities. In the alluvial workings there was little of interest to report at this time. A rush took place at Huntly, and a number of the claims paid very well. At Epsom the crushing of cement was pursued with highly remunerative results. On the 29th April a cake of gold was exhibited in Mr. Jackson's window which eclipsed anything produced up to this time in Victoria ; it weighed 1,230 ounces, and was the produce of eighty tons of stone, raised during three weeks by Messrs. Sibley and Co., from their claim in Ironbark Gully. The last cake previous to this weighed 370 ounces, which was at that time considered a wonder in its way. Since then a cake had been exhibited by Mr. Bannerman, weighing 730 ounces 16 dwts.,

the produce of forty-five tons of quartz from Messrs. Burrowes and Co.'s claim on the South Victoria reef.

The sudden fancy of Melbourne capitalists to invest in mining was the cause of great activity on Bendigo, and the springing into existence of new companies on all sides. Within two or three weeks 391 applications were lodged for leases, comprising an area of 27,000 yards of quartz reefs and 2,280 acres of alluvial ground.

CHAPTER X.

Mining Development.—*(Continued.)*

"Gold! gold! gold! gold!
Bright and yellow, hard and cold."
—*Hood.*

1860 to 1870.—The Quartz Era — Sebastian — Raywood — Latham and Watson's—Eaglehawk, Axe Creek and Kamarooka—Mining Machinery —Mr. Henry Koch—Sandhurst Exhibition—Rich Cakes from Collmann and Tacchi's, and Latham and Watson's—The Drainage of Reefs—Bullock Creek—The Whipstick.

THE yield from the Bendigo field, from 1851 to 1860 inclusive, is stated as 4,519,543 ounces, as against 4,806,477 ounces recorded for Ballarat. It has to be borne in mind that a large quantity of gold was taken away privately to Melbourne and the neighbouring colonies, so that the yields from both Bendigo and Ballarat were in reality much higher for the period mentioned. The most profitable years on Bendigo were 1853, when the yield was 661,749 ounces, and 1856, when it was 609,729 ounces.

In mentioning the yields of Bendigo and Ballarat it must be remembered that the latter goldfield was assisted by Creswick during the period referred to, and, in subsequent years, when the yield in Ballarat fell off very much, the Creswick division "saved the Ballarat district from an ignominious decadence beneath the position of its ancient rival," to quote the words of Mr. Withers, the author of the *History of Ballarat.*

Among the most prolific reefs on the goldfield in 1862 were the Catherine, Victoria, Hustler's, Sheepshead, Windmill Hill, Pegleg, Long Gully, Kangaroo Gully, Iron's, Redan, Johnson's, Private Escort, Star, and Napoleon. They continued to give out steady returns, while new ones were being constantly opened,

many with excellent results. Notwithstanding this, the escort for the month of June was lower than it had been for a very long time. During that month a reef named the Exhibition Reef, near the Big Hill, was opened, and occasioned some sensation by a yield of about eighteen ounces to the ton, later crushings running something lighter, about ten ounces to the ton. Soon afterwards the Frenchman's Reef (near where Messrs. Eadie and M'Intyre, some years before, had taken a large quantity of gold), which was being worked by Mr. W. M'Ewen, gave out a quantity of splendid stone. About the same time a surface reef of almost fabulous richness was discovered on the north side of Scotchman's Gully, Whipstick, by a German named Bolle; it was named "The Unfortunate Bolle's Reef." On the Victoria line of reef, the Energetic Company raised stone which gave a cake weighing 706 ounces 5 dwts., from eighty tons of quartz. The Garden Gully reef and others were also maintaining their character. During the month of December, 1862, two or three large lumps of gold were turned up on Bendigo, one in Break-o'-day Gully, by a coloured man named Benjamin Wilson; the stone weighed 243 ozs. 17 dwts., and when broken up and melted yielded 161 ozs. 13 dwts. The same man, not long before, found in the same locality a nugget weighing forty-eight ounces. It was found in an old hole, about twelve feet from the surface, and the finder stated that until plenty of water had been used in the tub and revealed the rich treasure he was unaware of his fortune. A Chinaman also sold a nugget to Mr. A. Bannerman, View Point, weighing 33 ozs. 11 dwts. As far as could be understood he got it in some old puddling ground near Golden Square. We do not mention these finds so much for their size as nuggets, but because they were obtained from alluvial areas which had been for years considered as worked out.

Several gold discoveries were made in June, 1863, resulting in the opening of a new field in the Whipstick scrub, about thirteen miles from Bendigo, on the Swan Hill Road, the locality being more popularly known as the Seven-mile Hut. In less than a fortnight between 2,000 and 3,000 persons were encamped on what was afterwards known as the Sebastian Diggings, in honour of the discoverer, who was a German. In Sandhurst the gullies were the scene of renewed vigour, and in shallow ground at Red Jacket Gully, a nugget weighing

11 lbs. 1 oz. was found, and realised upwards of £500. Some splendid specimens were obtained from the West of England Company, Mr. Rae's Company, the Hustler's Reef, Latham and Watson's, and the Adventure Company.

The Raywood Rush took place in November, 1863, and it was not long before there were 2,000 persons on the scene. The field yielded well, and as several of the gullies surrounding Bendigo commenced to yield well also, an improvement in the prospects of the district resulted. There were large and increasing yields from the Hustler's, Clarence, and American reefs, and the claim of Messrs. Latham and Watson. The opening up of the Alexander Reef, at Lockwood, with its 200 ounces of gold from a single ton of stone, and the rich diggings at Raywood, not to overlook those of Sebastian, also showed that on what some represented as a used-up goldfield, persevering industry and the judicious use of capital could bring to light treasures practically inexhaustible.

In March, 1864, the Bendigo goldfield was progressing steadily, and had been doing so for some months previous to a noticeable extent. The escorts were gradually on the increase, and had risen from an average of 4,000 ounces weekly to over 5,000 ounces. This resulted from the splendid yields of many of the old reefs, which, the more they were worked and the deeper they were explored, were the more thickly studded with gold. A number of new reefs had also been discovered, which promised to equal in richness any of the old ones. Another reason for the prosperity of Bendigo was found in the fact that during the summer the alluvial miners had had, owing to heavy rains, a good supply of water for mining purposes, thereby keeping them on the goldfield, which in the previous summers they had to forsake for a better watered district. The large yield of gold from Bendigo during the summer months of 1863-4 incontestably proved that with an abundant and constant supply of water, the goldfield would assume its proper position as the leading goldfield in Australia. In 1864, Bendigo, as a field for reefs, was considered to have no equal in Australia, the yields from many of the reefing companies being unsurpassed. As an instance it may be mentioned that the result of one week's crushing at Messrs. Latham and Watson's claim, on the Hustler's reef, was a cake weighing 790 ounces, while another cake obtained the week previous

weighed 314 ounces. The consequence of this success was an increased activity in prospecting for new reefs, and a firm faith in the ultimate success of companies which had been toiling for some years in the expectation of striking the gold, as many of those now reaping a golden harvest had also had to labour and wait. General prospecting prevailed on the goldfield, and was likely to continue ; many parties were searching for new alluvial ground with every prospect of success. Around Bendigo there was a large extent of country of an auriferous character that only wanted steady exploration to develop great wealth.

At the beginning of 1865 the attention of miners and of mining speculators was being directed to quartz reefing by the discovery of many new and rich reefs in various portions of the Bendigo goldfield. A large extent of ground had been taken up, with every prospect of the golden dreams of its owners being realised. In the Eaglehawk district especially, great activity was shown in reefing. In the ranges at the head of Kangaroo Flat, reefs of unusual richness had been discovered, while in the Raywood direction, and even at and beyond Axe Creek, the reefs were very promising. Fresh discoveries were, indeed, being made in every direction. In many cases, however, the want of machinery on the ground prevented the mines being worked to advantage ; for instance, at Kamarooka the quartz yielded an ounce to the ton, but as it had to be carted some ten miles to be crushed, this was a serious drawback. The system of stamper crushing was not then all that could be desired, and an improvement in the amalgamating process was wanted.

During February, 1865, mining operations were very much retarded on account of the scarcity of water, crushing engines and puddling mills having stopped working in every direction. All this had the effect of producing a falling off in the yield of gold. On several of the lines of reef, however, splendid machinery was being erected, of which the more prominent were the Hustler's Reef Company's new plant, and the Catherine United Company's extensive additions to their already fine mining machinery, nearly finished. Much confidence was felt in the future of the quartz reefs.

In April, 1865, Bendigo was suffering greatly in consequence of the scarcity of water. Great numbers of puddling mills and crushing machines stopped work, throwing between 2,000 and 3,000

miners out of employment. On several portions of the field splendid mining plants were erected. The latest was the machinery erected by Mr. Henry Koch, of Long Gully. The engine was of fifty horse-power, erected in a well-built house, eighty-three feet long, by forty feet wide; the water for the boiler and for washing was obtained from the Havelock engine near at hand, and sufficed to work the forty-eight heads. In May the machinery of the Catherine Reef Company, consisting of a battery with forty-four head of stampers, and a powerful fifty horse-power engine, was erected, and the new engine was christened by Mrs. Letheby, the mayoress of Eaglehawk. The total cost of the new works was £4,000. In June, tenders were received for mining in Pall Mall, for the three blocks of ground contained in the Pall Mall Reserve, and out of fifteen or sixteen tenderers the following were accepted :— For No. 1 Block, nearest View Point, W. D. C. Denovan; amount of tender, £61; No. 2, or Middle Block, Macfeeter, £38; No. 3 Block, nearest to Mundy Street continuation, Hunter, £81. The yield of gold, however, enabled Messrs. Denovan, Macfeeter and Hunter to do little more than pay wages.

A considerable degree of commotion was caused in July, 1866, amongst a number of the mining companies, in consequence of their cheques for payment of accounts and wages having been dishonoured at the banks. The course pursued by the banks was justified to a certain extent, as some forty registered mining companies, most of which had been formed within the previous eighteen months, showed by their balance-sheets, that they owed, in bank overdrafts chiefly, and outstanding accounts, about £25,000. All the mines were not in a depressed state, however, the Comet, Johnson's Reef, New Chum, Energetic, Victoria Reef, and Advance companies showing good returns.

The exhibits of gold at the Sandhurst Exhibition, in September, 1866, were naturally the chief feature of it, and by the enormous wealth which they represented, created considerable surprise amongst the visitors from a distance. One company, the Advance, on the Victoria Reef, exhibited a gilt pyramid, representing in its size the total quantity of gold taken from the company's claim since gold was first obtained, eighteen months previously. It represented 10,640 ounces of gold, crushed from 7,600 tons of quartz. The cost of getting this was £8,571, and the dividends amounted to £31,080.

There had been a distinct revival in mining in the district, many of the mines yielding splendid returns. The cake of gold from the Advance Company during the month of September amounted to 1,048 ounces from 692 tons of quartz. On the West Victoria Reef, the Victoria Quartz Mining Company, a private enterprise, also struck a very rich lode after years of persevering labour. Further north, on the same line, Ballerstedt's claim was yielding good returns, and the adjoining public company north, the Victoria Gold Mines Company, had, after almost working against hope, at last been rewarded by striking a reef over forty feet wide, with gold all through it. The first crushing of ninety-six tons yielded a cake of 204 ounces. The list of good yields by no means stopped here, however, for excellent results were being reported at the same time from Hustler's Reef, Comet, and Alhambra Companies, Latham and Watson's, Betts and Co., on the Perseverance Reef; Walker and Co., on the Robert Burns Reef; Brennan and Co., on the Windmill Hill Reef; Johnson's Reef Company, Collmann and Tacchi's claim on the American Reef; New Chum Company, Koch and Hildebrandt's Tribute, Bonati's claim, Menzies' claim; and in Eaglehawk, the Catherine Reef United, the Great Extended Eagle, and Lady Barkly; at Golden Square, the North Whip, and Hibernia Freehold; at Kangaroo Flat, the Break-o'-day Company; at Sebastian, the Frederick the Great Company; near Lockwood, the Wallaby Reef. This increase in the yields resulted in the erection of a large quantity of new machinery on the various lines of reef. For a period of six weeks, ending in October, the returns from Latham and Watson's claim amounted to £12,000 worth of gold, of which £10,000 was profit.

A few figures regarding the public companies on the Bendigo goldfield, in the year 1866, will be of interest. There were no fewer than 139 registered companies, whose total number of shares amounted to 2,687,687, representing a nominal value of £2,681,298. Steam machinery for winding, or crushing, or draining, or all combined, was possessed by fifty of these companies, while a large number of those of a private character also owned similar machinery.

In the autumn of 1867, the yields from the quartz mines maintained a good average; one of the largest cakes of gold produced in the district was obtained from quartz taken from

Collmann and Tacchi's claim—it weighed 1,336 ounces, and was the produce of 192 tons of stone. The great event in mining in July, 1867, was the discovery of an alluvial lead of gold at Myers' Creek. It was something remarkable that, notwithstanding the efforts of prospecting parties at various times, this lead should have remained untouched for fifteen years. The yields from the quartz reefs at the close of 1867 spoke hopefully for the district, for not only were the old established mines maintaining excellent yields, but some which had had a run of bad luck were again in fortune's way, while in various parts of the district startling discoveries were being made. The most important of these was the opening up of reefing grounds at Marong, the richness of which was shown by the returns from Wilson's claim—twenty loads of stone yielding 188 ounces of gold.

Several subjects of interest in connection with mining were agitated in July, the most noticeable of which was the proposal in a Bill before Parliament to tax the mines. This met with vigorous opposition both in Bendigo and Eaglehawk. On a number of the lines of reef the question of drainage forced itself on the attention of claimholders, and in several instances meetings were held to make drainage arrangements. The subject was one surrounded with difficulties, and, owing to the want of drainage, a large portion of the richest reefs were unworked.

The question was early one of great importance to the quartz miners of Bendigo, and, in 1868, was rapidly becoming more so. At the beginning of that year, large areas of ground were unworked, which might have been profitably worked, and have given employment to numbers of miners, if an acceptable drainage bye-law had been in existence. Another matter vitally affecting the interests of the district was the question of water supply. Mining enterprise had long been retarded on Bendigo for want of an abundant supply of water, and the completion of the Coliban Water Scheme was anxiously looked for.

An excellent proof of the prosperous state of the Bendigo goldfield in the latter part of 1868 was found in the fact that during the month of August the banks purchased 18,748 ozs. 10 dwts. 2 grs. of gold, an increase over the previous month of 1,000 ounces. Another evidence of the activity in mining was shown by the great increase in business in the Warden's Court. The largeness of the gold returns was due in a considerable degree to new

alluvial fields which had been opened up at Bullock Creek and the Whipstick. At the beginning of the winter of 1869, the times were prosperous on Bendigo, because the various lines of reef were yielding gold richly. That they were doing so was in a great measure owing to the success of the tribute system, which had come generally into vogue. The degree of this success may be estimated roughly by the official returns of the bank purchases of gold, which, for the four weeks in April, amounted to 18,534 ozs. 7 dwts. 15 grs., or an average of 4,633 ozs. 11 dwts. 21 grs. per week. In the winter of 1869, a very large extent of new ground had been taken up under lease on almost every line of reef on Bendigo, and the rich finds obtained from many of the new mines proved great inducements for the miners to proceed vigorously with prospecting. The result was most beneficial to the district, there being scarcely an unemployed miner to be found in it.

CHAPTER XI.

Mining Development.—*(Continued.)*

"Hear ye not the hum
Of mighty workings?"
—*Keats.*

1870-91.—Large Yields from the Great Extended Hustler's—Rush to Bendigo —Garden Gully Line and Perseverance Reef—Collmann and Tacchi's—New Chum and Victoria—Monster Cakes from the Great Extended Hustler's Tribute—Garden Gully United—United Devonshire—Johnson's Reef—Frederick the Great Co.—Victoria Hill—Mr. George Lansell—Mr. B. Lazarus—Mr. John Watson—Mr. J. Latham—Mr. J. B. Watson—Hopes for the Future—Statistics—Gold Calls and Dividends.

WE now come to a remarkable era in the history of mining development on Bendigo. The year 1870 had witnessed a marked improvement in the prospects of the district, and in 1871 numbers of rich discoveries were made simultaneously. Thousands of people were attracted to the city, and the building trade was greatly stimulated in consequence of the influx of population. The share market presented an appearance never to be forgotten by those who once witnessed it in those days of feverish excitement. Thousands of people blocked the path and roadway opposite the Exchange, and traffic was carried on under great difficulties in the main thoroughfare. The speculation in stocks and shares was extraordinary, fortunes being made and lost in a few hours. From early morn till late at night people dealt in shares, and went to bed to dream about them. The excitement must have driven many persons mad, if their rash speculation did not already indicate minds disordered. The end came at last. Many emerged from this mining "boom" sadder and wiser, while others, by means of it, raised themselves to positions of

comparative affluence. It was, after all, a period which we are forced to look back upon with mixed feelings. The unhealthy excitement which prevailed while the mines maintained their rich yields, and new discoveries were of daily occurrence, was not without its lessons in after years, which brought with them cool reflection. Those who figured in those stirring days would know what to avoid if the district experienced a similar revival now in connection with the development of its reefs. But would they avoid the errors of twenty years ago? It is at least doubtful.

Our desire, however, is not to deal with the buying and selling of scrip, of "potting," "rigging the market," or with the jobbers, speculators, and promoters of bogus companies. It is to describe the development of the field by those legitimate means which, in the long run, most surely reflect credit upon the enterprise and pluck of the genuine investor.

At the beginning of 1870 mining was in a very prosperous state. During the latter half of 1869 there had been a steady improvement in the yields, and the total amount of gold purchased by the banks in that year as the produce of the goldfield was 225,258 ounces. The official returns showed that the yield from the quartz mines averaged 10½ dwts. of gold per ton, and from the alluvial mines the average was 3¾ dwts. One of the most gratifying results of mining at the time was the large amount paid in dividends. In one week it reached £4,000, while the amount of calls was decreasing. The tribute system found favour on account of the general success which attended it, the usual run of tribute paid being from ten to twenty per cent. on the gross yield of gold. There was great excitement respecting the Hustler's line of reef, owing to the striking in the Great Extended Hustler's mine of an entirely new reef at the 500 and 450 feet levels, ninety-five tons of which gave the splendid return of 632¾ ounces of gold. The shares of the company took a sudden jump in consequence, in a fortnight's time from ten shillings to twenty-seven shillings. The reef the company had hitherto been working yielded one ounce of gold per ton. In the winter of 1870 it was apparent that an era of prosperity had come upon Bendigo, which had every appearance of a long continuance, and was the legitimate result of pertinacious efforts in developing the quartz reefs. The whole district was participating in this revival, and population was centering on Bendigo. The influx of miners from

Ballarat, Castlemaine and Maryborough into the Bendigo district was very considerable, and, in fact, greatly resembled an exodus from those districts to Bendigo. The yields were steadily increasing.

First there had been the discovery of the reef in the Extended Hustler's, then the Garden Gully line and the Perseverance reef came into notice; then occurred the discovery of the largest piece of gold ever found in quartz in the colony, in the Argus mine—the specimen weighed twenty-four pounds, and more than half of it was gold. In July, the Collmann and Tacchi Company came upon their old golden reef at a depth of 650 feet, the greatest depth at which a golden reef had ever been found in the district. Within the preceding twelve months a great extent of new ground had been taken up.

In June, 1871, the quartz reefs of Bendigo were just beginning to realise the prophecies respecting them made many years before —that they would become the mainstay of the goldfield, when the alluvial mines were exhausted, and that not only would gold be obtained near the surface, but at great depths. By some theorists it was given out that by the time the miners got down 1,000 feet the gold would be exhausted, but experience utterly condemned the theory, for it was from the deep mines that the returns of gold in 1871 were astonishing the community, and filling the pockets of shareholders with dividends, amounting, in May, to £31,300. There appeared to be no end to the marvellous richness of the Garden Gully line of reef, and the deeper the shafts were sunk, fresh bodies of golden stone were met with at pretty regular intervals. No fewer than five had been struck in Bell and Watson's claim, and each reef had proved richer than the preceding one. The greatest depth on the line at this time was only about 350 feet, and the reef at that depth yielded six ounces to the ton. On the Hustler's line of reef gold in abundance had been got to 750 feet. The Pandora Company's mine, situated between the Victory and Garden Gully companies, was expected to eclipse all others, because it was a gully mine. Next in importance, at this time, to the Garden Gully and Hustler's Reef, was the New Chum or Victoria Reef. For some time previous it had been exceedingly dull, but the finding of a gold reef in the Old Chum gave a great impetus to the line, the fruits of which were evident in the great price at which Lazarus' claim was sold,

£45,000. The Extended Hustler's Company was at this time the premier company of the Bendigo district, whether regarded as to price, the number of dividends, or the extent of the mine. A short time previous they had come upon the rich reef which yielded so magnificently at a depth of 500 feet, and were taking it out to the north, and obtaining large returns. Since then the value of the mine had increased from £56,000 to £168,000; this was due to the permanency of the prospect, each crosscut and level serving to develop the riches of the mine. At a distance of twelve feet from the 500 feet crosscut they cut the reef, and they then drove 187 feet on it to the north, towards Latham and Watson's. From this area came the great cakes which so astonished the mining world. From the 6th January, 1870, to the 6th January, 1871, this company crushed 13,998 tons, which yielded 18,209 ounces, realising £71,540, and up to June, 1871, had declared £63,700 in dividends.

The month of January, 1872, was an extraordinary one in respect to the large cakes of gold produced, and the consequent increase in the amount of dividends. The Great Extended Hustler's Tribute Company had the renown of producing these monster cakes, of which there were three, viz.,—2,399 ounces; 3,002 ounces; and 3,900 ounces, making a total of 9,301 ounces. The yield of gold from this company, during November and December, 1871, was something unprecedented in Victoria. During that time they crushed 1,107 tons of stone for a yield of 11,087 ounces of gold, being an average of ten ounces to the ton, out of which dividends to the amount of £38,000 were paid.

The discoverer of Hustler's Reef is set down by all as an old man named Hustler, who at one time owned the mine, now known (in 1872) as Latham and Watson's. He was a one-armed man, having been deprived of one arm by an accident. It is a figure of this man that is to be seen on the Extended Hustler's scrip; it was in the year 1854 that he discovered the Hustler's Reef. At one time he was very wealthy—this was in the hey-day of prosperity; yet, with all, this poor old man died at last without a shilling.

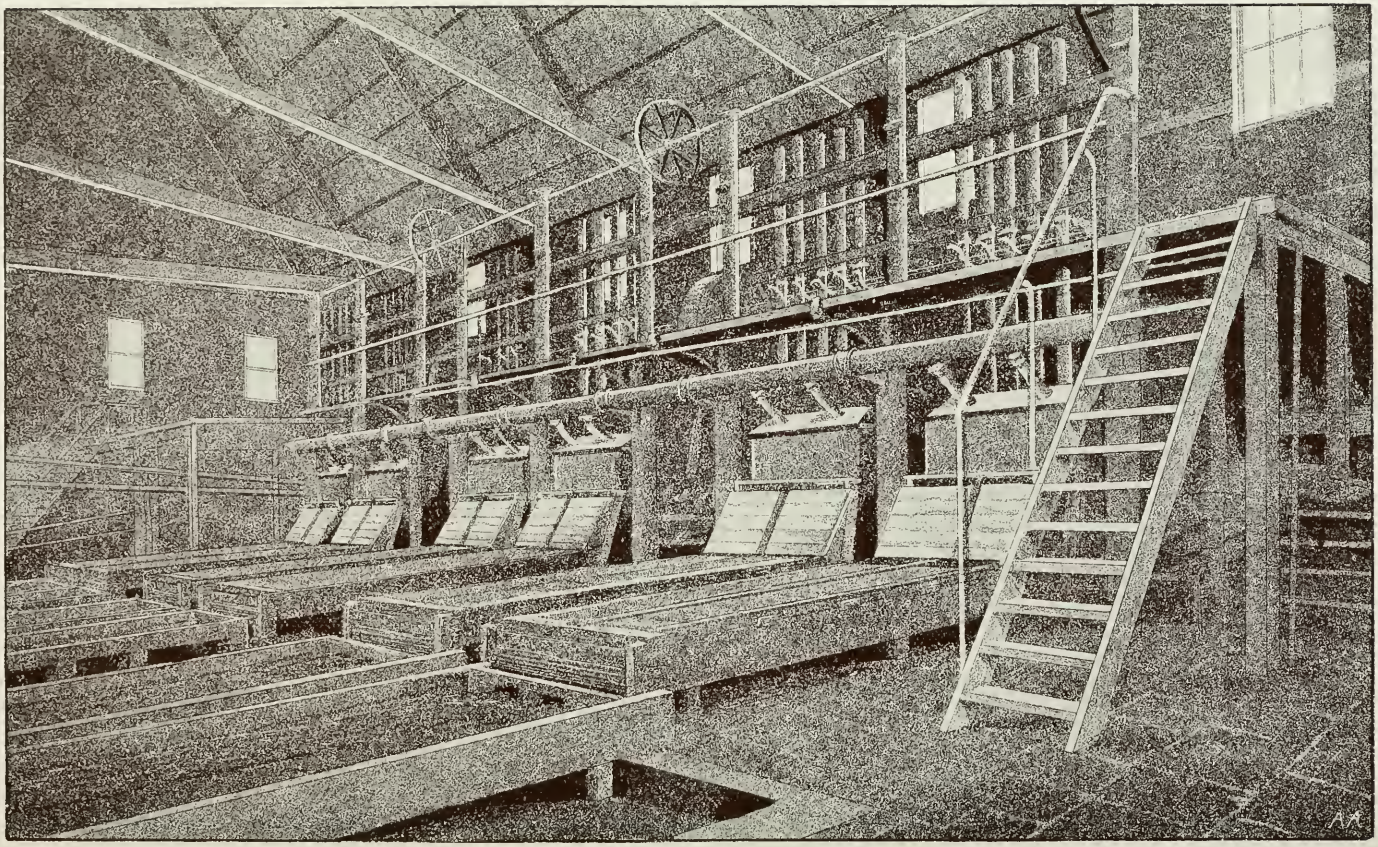
In February the mining market, which for some time had been depressed, owing to the large number of ventures launched, was beginning, under the influence of large dividends, to revive. The dividends for January amounted to £50,784, and for

February, £65,168. Mining still continued to draw itself slowly and steadily along without any of the wonderful excitement that, but a few months previously, electrified the colony, although results far surpassed those at the time of the rage. The Hustler's line had been rather quiet, although the Hustler's Tribute sent in nearly as good a yield as ever. It was a pity that on this line there should only have been one company on profitable gold at a time. First of all, the Hustler's had splendid stone, and paid dividends; then the Comet; then Latham and Watson's, afterwards the Extended Hustler's, and, finally, the Extended Hustler's Tribute. On the Garden Gully line there had been an astounding discovery of good gold in several claims almost simultaneously, and hence the excitement.

There was a lull in the mining world of Bendigo about the middle of 1873, because the yield of gold had fallen off. Nevertheless, a large amount of progressive work was going on all over the goldfield.

In the latter part of 1874 the mines of the district were looking well—those on the southern portion of the Garden Gully line had come to the front. The Garden Gully United continued to send in good returns. The Great Extended Hustler's still maintained the pride of place on the Hustler's line; the St. Mungo line was looking well, but the New Chum line was quiet.

Several events transpired in 1875 of great interest to the mining community. The Hustler's had sunk their main shaft down below 1,000 feet, and were thus the first on Bendigo to attain that depth. The idea of payable yields from such a depth would have been laughed at years before, but Lazarus No. 1 was obtaining fine yields from 700 and 800 feet, their return during Christmas week in 1875 being 958 ounces from 318 loads. At the same time the Unity Company, from the 710 feet level, furnished a return of 1,030 ounces from fifty-six loads. At lesser depths other companies had met with fine reefs; the Londonderry, from the 370 feet level, crushed 173 loads for 1,090 ounces. The Garden Gully line had furnished rich returns; the Garden Gully Co., which paid £47,584 in dividends during the year, heading the list. The prospects on the Hustler's, Garden Gully, and New Chum lines were such as to



GARDEN GULLY CRUSHING BATTERY.

lead to high hopes being entertained with regard to the prospects of the mines in 1876.

The Great Extended Hustler's Company has experienced many ups and downs. In 1870 its market value was £14,000, but this rose to £560,000 in its most prosperous year, only to fall again to £3,500, after the rich reef between 300 feet and 600 feet was worked out. A depth of nearly 2,000 feet was reached before the company experienced a revival, and when, in 1887, gold was struck at 1,860 feet, its market value again rose to £178,500. The value has since declined again. From the reef at 600 feet the company, on a called-up capital of only £17,200, paid £363,000. Since the formation of the company, about 190,000 ounces of gold have been obtained. The Great Extended Hustler's Tribute Company has also had a remarkable record. We have already mentioned some of the large cakes produced in 1871 and 1872. From the 20th November, 1871, to the 15th July, 1872, eighteen cakes aggregated 48,032 ounces, and during this period £163,800 were paid in dividends. Altogether, up to date, the Tribute Company has paid £194,600 in dividends.

In addition to the Garden Gully Reef proper, sections of it to the north, such as the Windmill, Johnson's, Eaglehawk, Anglo, Specimen Hill, and Moon Reefs were, in the early days, noted for fabulously rich yields. The Johnson's Reef Co. got on the surface as much as 150 ounces to the ton, but a small claim, Lindsay and Taylor's, yielded 700 ounces to the ton, while three tons gave as much as 3,035 ounces. The Bobbie Burns was also noted for rich yields, and the Cinderella Company founded Mr. Lansell's fortune. At Windmill Hill, an old man named Sullivan, and his sons, obtained half-a-ton of gold in three years; they crushed some stone which gave 500 ounces to the ton, and the owners realised as much as £16,000 in one month. The Garden Gully Company was formed in 1865, and not meeting with success, let the ground on tribute in 1868. The tributors spent £12,666, and, in addition to paying 17½ per cent. tribute to the company, realised £220,875 in dividends. The original company resumed possession in 1874, and continued thereafter to pay fortnightly dividends for several years. The total amount of gold raised by the company to March, 1891, is 326,300 ounces, and £865,600 have been declared in dividends, including tributors' £220,875.

In recent years the record of the United Devonshire mine was the most sensational, it having paid £219,800 in dividends during the continuance of the rich stone between the 400 feet and the 600 feet levels.

The best idea of the wonderful resources of the district may be obtained, however, from the following table :—

Company.	Dividends to 30th June, 1891.	Called up Capital.
	£	£
Garden Gully United	865,666	21,646
Great Extended Hustler's	621,900	62,900
United Devonshire	229,600	8,244
Great Extended Hustler's Tribute	194,600	30,100
North Johnson's	149,275	33,150
New Chum Consolidated	135,800	18,200
New Chum and Victoria	112,777	16,625
Belmont and Saxby	115,750	4,500
Victoria Consols	121,000	62,000
United Hustler's and Redan	115,892	19,736
Frederick the Great	101,000	7,150
Hercules and Energetic	84,625	6,750
Ellesmere No. 1	89,950	14,573
Lady Barkly	66,115	17,400
Lazarus No. 1	97,312	19,125
New Chum United	66,374	7,375
North Old Chum	83,675	24,987
North Shenandoah	63,800	12,400
Rose of Denmark	63,000	4,800
Sadowa	64,800	14,000
South Devonshire	32,670	3,900
South St. Mungo	60,750	10,875
St. Mungo	32,100	3,000
Ellenborough	76,800	23,100
South Catherine	17,083	7,550
Lazarus Company...	76,875	18,000

The above table does not include the record for private mines, but an idea of their prolific character will be obtained from a perusal of the following and subsequent paragraphs.

On the New Chum and Victoria line the Victoria Hill was the first place to become distinguished for its rich yields. Ballerstedt and Son, Wittscheibe and Co., and Luffsman and Co. derived large profits from the rich lodes in this hill, but Mr. George Lansell, by his development of this portion, and, indeed, all parts of the goldfield, has earned the distinction of "pioneer quartz reefer" of the district; his shaft on the Victoria Hill, the "180," is

2,640 feet deep, while the diamond drill has been pushed down to the depth of 400 feet more. Mr. Lansell is supposed to have discovered highly remunerative lodes at 700 feet and 1,860 feet, but the enterprise he has exhibited in exploring to great depths has been of inestimable value to the district. If Mr. Lansell has reaped the fruits of his enterprise, it must be remembered that he has never withheld his hand from the work of developing our reefs, which he has continued through seasons of adversity as well as prosperity. Hundreds of miners on the goldfield are kept at work through his faith in its resources. His first successes were in the Advance and Cinderella claims, each eighty yards in extent. His fortunes were varied after this; in one fortnight he has been known to make £14,000 profit, and, on the other hand, he has dropped thousands of pounds each year for several years in succession. His best ventures have been in the Garden Gully United, and his purchase of Mr. Ballerstedt's estate, and, although up to now, his deep-sinking has been all outlay, he does not despair in that direction. Mr. Lansell is of opinion that all our side lines of reef are worthy of more attention than is at present bestowed upon them, more especially as they will, if found profitable, be more easily worked. "While it will be much easier for the employé at shallow depths, we may hope," says Mr. Lansell, "that some clever man may introduce some better means of ventilation for the miners, and then the depth will not be so much objected to."

Reference may also be made to the late Mr. Barnet Lazarus, the late Mr. John Watson, Mr. Latham, and the late Mr. J. B. Watson, whose names are prominent in the history of the district's development.

In the "fifties," Mr. Barnet Lazarus became a partner of Mr. George Gibbs, who was the owner of a claim on the Black Lead, New Chum. The claim formed a portion of the present Lazarus lease. The profit realised by the partners was very large, and it was said to have been at the rate of £22,000 per annum at one time, and more than £80,000 worth of gold was taken out of the claim. Mr. Gibbs subsequently sold his interest, and Mr. Lazarus became the sole proprietor. From about 1864 to 1880 he had received upwards of £136,000 net profits out of his mine, in dividends, and by the sale of his interest. In 1870 Mr. Lazarus sold half his interest in the claim for £20,000, the

Lazarus Company, in 45,000 shares, being floated, and in 1871 the Lazarus No. 1 Company was formed to work the southern portion of the lease. In 1879 Mr. Lazarus sold out nearly the whole of his remaining interest in the two companies for £40,000.

In 1854 Messrs. J. Latham and Hustler bought the well-known quartz claim in Ironbark, since known as the Hustler's; Mr. John Watson was given a share on account of his professional knowledge. About the end of 1856 Hustler sold out, and Messrs. Latham and Watson purchased a half-share in the adjoining claim, which extended into the bed of the gully, belonging to Messrs. Sibley and Putnam; the latter sold out, but Mr. Sibley joined the firm, and continued a member till 1860. Messrs. Latham and Watson continued to work the ground with great success, but subsequently suffered severe losses by entering largely into coal mining at Kilcunda. Mr. Latham has, for many years, resided in Melbourne.

Mr. J. B. Watson was amongst the earliest diggers on the White Hills, once famous for their wonderful stores of the golden treasure. He afterwards turned his attention to the Paddy's Gully Reef, named after its discoverer, an Irishman, named Lomasney. For a short time the mine yielded largely, some of the stone returning as much as seventeen ounces to the ton. During the first quartz mining excitement the prospects were so excellent in this locality that an offer of £20,000 in cash was made for 373 yards of the ground held by the Paddy's Gully Company, who refused to sell under £24,000, and the negotiations ceased. Mr. Watson's next venture, and the one that eventually made him one of the wealthiest men in the colony, was on the Garden Gully line of reef, where, about twenty years ago, he became possessed of the Golden Fleece, the Kent, and the Central Garden Gully claims, which adjoined each other. They were amalgamated, and they are now represented in the present Kentish mine, which was carried on by Mr. Watson up to the time of his death. Between 1871 and 1880 the Kent mine turned out prodigious quantities of gold; from one reef alone Mr. Watson obtained the enormous yield of thirteen tons of the precious metal, valued at nearly a million and a-half sterling. Mr. Watson also invested largely in several of the mines of the district, and was enormously wealthy

when he died, his Victorian property alone being valued at £1,000,000.

The figures which we give of the gold yield show that there has been a falling off during a series of years, due not to exhaustion, but to the necessarily slower process of extracting the gold from the deep reefs. The Government Survey shows that there are no fewer than 276 distinct quartz reefs in the district, and when it is borne in mind that only a small proportion of these has been subjected to anything like a thorough test, while many of them have been neglected altogether, there is no reason to assume that the auriferous deposits are rapidly becoming exhausted. Capital is needed to develop these reefs, for there must be preliminary work before a reward can be expected for labour and money spent. The Frederick the Great Company exemplifies the capabilities of an outside line. At the same time what are termed the main lines of reef, viz., the Hustler's, Garden Gully, and New Chum and Victoria still afford promising indications of large yields in the future. The Hustler's line is being tested to the south by the Fortuna Hustler's mine in a way that it has not been tested in this direction before. The New Chum line also affords scope for the prospector in the same direction.

An instance of the nature of the mineral resources awaiting the employment of capital is to be found in the history of the new Red White and Blue mine, on the Sheepshead line of reef. The surface reefs in the locality were very rich in the early days, but for many years after the ground lay unworked. Then the present company was formed, but after sinking the shaft some distance, another lengthened period of abandonment followed. Subsequently new life was infused into the company, resulting in the discovery of the runs of stone at present being operated upon. The yields for a time proved poor, and the company was almost on the point of collapse, when the stone became payable. The company thereupon entered upon a career of prosperity, as shown by the fact that within twelve months it has paid dividends amounting to 9s. 3d. per share, or £20,812 10s. The result of this success has been that companies are now working on the line for several miles, and several of them have already obtained encouraging prospects.

Remarkable work has been done on Bendigo in the development of reefs, which may be judged from the fact that nineteen

shafts had been sunk to a depth of over 2,000 feet in March, 1891 :—

Mine.	Feet.	Mine.	Feet.
Lansell's "180"	2,640	Shenandoah	2,120
North Old Chum	2,310	Watson's Kentish... ...	2,113
Victoria Quartz	2,302	Lansell's "222"	2,105
Victory and Pandora ..	2,300	Garibaldi	2,104
New Chum and Victoria...	2,300	Great Extended Hustler's	2,040
Old Chum..	2,200	Garden Gully United ...	2,040
Victoria Consols	2,162	Eureka	2,001
Lazarus and Lazarus No. 1	2,150	Carlisle	2,001
Ironbark	2,140	Great Central Victoria ..	2,000
New Chum Railway ...	2,131		

Taking Bendigo and Eaglehawk, and comparing them with Ballarat and Creswick, the total number of miners at work in the two former, during the last quarter of 1890, was 3,888, and in the two latter fields, 4,088. The value of all mining machinery in Bendigo and Eaglehawk in the same period was £456,206, and in Ballarat and Creswick £257,601. The following figures, taken from the official report, represent the relative positions of the various Government mining districts during the last quarter of 1890, in regard to the nature and value of machinery :—

Mining Districts.	Alluvial Mining.		Quartz Mining.			Approximate value of all Plants.
	No. of Engines.	Horse Power.	No. of Engines.	Horse Power.	No. of Stamp-heads.	
						£
Sandhurst	5	80	316	6,873	1,328	483,241
Ballarat	75	2,557	207	5,510	1,274	401,432
Castlemaine	15	557	135	3,307	991	233,721
Beechworth	25	638	87	1,116	1,009	211,403
Maryborough ...	46	1,956	79	1,758	564	197,089
Gippsland	8	178	53	1,137	452	183,529
Ararat	15	335	38	1,151	333	138,697

There are ten divisions included in the Ballarat district, and five in the Sandhurst district. The names of the former are, Central, Southern, Buninyong, Smythesdale, Creswick, Clunes, Gordon, Steigiitz, Blackwood, and Blue Mountain South and Ballan, and the names of the latter are Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Kilmore, Heathcote and Rushworth.

In round numbers Bendigo has yielded sixty millions worth of gold, but the following figures will give a better idea of the nature and extent of the operations which have been carried on since 1851. A record of the calls and dividends was not kept prior to 1871. In connection with the gold yield, it should be mentioned that there is no record of the gold taken away privately by owners to Melbourne and the other colonies, but the amount is estimated at four million ounces :—

—	Gold Yield.	Calls.	Dividends.
Year.	Ounces.	£	£
1851	200,000	—	—
1852	475,857	—	—
1853	661,749	—	—
1854	429,983	—	—
1855	451,588	—	—
1856	609,729	—	—
1857	492,431	—	—
1858	447,712	—	—
1859	403,891	—	—
1860	346,603	—	—
1861	298,442	—	—
1862	231,514	—	—
1863	199,010	—	—
1864	192,617	—	—
1865	180,961	—	—
1866	212,804	—	—
1867	221,552	—	—
1868	217,016	—	—
1869	225,258	—	—
1870	241,380	—	—
1871	279,719	232,421	434,276
1872	360,300	360,300	683,140
1873	329.447	234,066	628,066
1874	313,965	188.384	500,615
1875	295,007	110,859	342,865
1876	275,208	104 007	404,695
1877	183,049	67,969	143,015
1878	168,990	61,182	204,325
1879	172,252	59,698	169,635
1880	172,629	83,793	214,552
1881	169,964	202,909	250,717
1882	202,269	208,260	333,472
1883	220,158	196,395	320,731
1884	219,160	154,697	318,048
1885	216,772	131,530	286,366
1886	177,546	133,721	191,321
1887	163,010	131,794	134,920
1888	174,581	172,055	178,799
1889	148,703	137,489	118,473
1890	155,091	111,142	149,381

The work performed by the Mining Board should not be forgotten. It has rendered great service to the community by its

watchfulness over the auriferous areas, and by preventing their alienation. Of late years its powers have been restricted, and the agitation which has advocated their abolition will probably result in the delegation of the duties of the Prospecting and Mining Boards to a new body established on a more practical basis.

The Mining Board members are Messrs. Sims (chairman), Debney, Crawley, Blackham, Collmann, Berryman, Phillips, Crocker, Cunningham, and Dolan. Mr. Brown, the Secretary, holds the same position in connection with the Prospecting Board, of which the following are members :—Messrs. Kirkwood, Crawley, Walker, Collmann, and Wilson. Mr. Kirkwood, the chairman, is the most influential resident of Eaglehawk, and has always taken a deep interest in mining and all local movements.

The following are the various mining officers connected with the district :—Warden, Mr. G. W. F. Patterson ; District Mining Registrar and Clerk of Warden's Courts at Bendigo and Eaglehawk, Mr. H. S. V. Busst ; Mining Surveyors, Messrs. A. F. Walker and J. F. O'Dwyer ; Inspector of Mines and Machinery, Mr. W. H. Grainger ; Inspector of Mining Leases, Mr. T. W. Busst ; Warden's Clerk, Eaglehawk, Mr. J. C. Ryan.

CHAPTER XII.

Political.

"The strength of the Government does not consist in anything *within* itself, but in the attachment of a nation, and the interest which the people feel in supporting it."

—*Anon.*

1855-77.—Representation of the Goldfields—Dr. Owens—Mr. R. Benson—Mr. J. M. Grant—The Land Question—Mr. R. F. Howard—Mr. John Henderson—Mr. Brodie—Mr. Carpenter—Mr. Grant's Career—Death of Mr. Benson—Mr. J. F. Sullivan—Mr. W. D. C. Denovan—Mr. J. J. Casey—Mr. William Hopkins—Mr. R. Strickland—Protection and Freetrade—Mr. R. Burrowes—Mr. John Halfey—The Darling Grant—Mr. A. Mackay—The Liberal Association—Mr. Thompson Moore—The Mines' Regulation Act—Death of Mr. J. F. Sullivan.

AS we have stated in a previous chapter, one of the provisions of the new legislation in 1854, affecting the goldfields, was that the various districts should be represented by one member in the Legislative Council. Early in 1855 Dr. Owens was nominated as a candidate for the representation of the diggers, but as it was necessary for him to be nominated in all the goldfields in turn, he abandoned an undertaking in which he was so heavily handicapped. Of course this did not cause satisfaction, and on the 24th February the representation of the diggers was once more the subject of a public meeting, and the treatment which Dr. Owens had met with at the hands of the Government came in for severe censure. A vote of confidence in Dr. Owens was carried, and it was also resolved to request him to go to the other diggings, for the purpose of being nominated as the diggers' representative, subscriptions being taken up to defray his expenses. Dr. Owens was thus enabled to comply with the

conditions, and took his seat in the old Nominee Council. The diggers were not satisfied with the character of the representation, however, and after further agitation, Parliament at last decided that Bendigo should have the privilege of electing two representatives to the Legislative Council. Among those who took a prominent part in the movement for the representation of the diggers, were Messrs. Wall, Edwards, Bouran, McKenzie, Denovan, Mackay, Capt. Brown, Hulkes, Sullivan, Howard, Hopkins, Andrews, Emmett, W. Brown and C. J. Brown.

For the election, which was held in November, there were three candidates, viz.: Messrs. R. Benson, J. M. Grant and S. Jones. Mr. Benson was one of those who had started the agitation which had caused the abolition of the license tax, and the race of Commissioners. To him much was owing for the reforms which had been carried out. Mr. Grant had acted as solicitor for the Ballarat prisoners, and was the zealous, disinterested and successful defender of the heroes of the Eureka Stockade. He had previously gained an excellent character as an advocate of the cause of freedom and progress in Sydney. Mr. Jones was a well-known auctioneer.

Messrs. Benson and Grant were elected by a substantial majority.

In the following year there were numerous political storms, and great changes were introduced into the Government of the colony. Vote by ballot was instituted. Sir Charles Hotham died in December, 1855, owing, it was stated, to the severe tension upon his health by the troublous times through which the colony was passing. In 1856 the new Constitution came into operation, providing two branches of the Legislature. A general election was held towards the close of the year. Sandhurst, with 2,232 voters, was allowed one member in the Assembly.

The candidates for Sandhurst Boroughs were Mr. J. M. Grant and Mr. J. F. Sullivan, and the contest, which took place on the 10th October, 1856, resulted in the election of Mr. Grant.

The election for the Loddon, which included the districts round Bendigo, was held subsequently, and Dr. Owens and Mr. E. Syme, of the *Age*, were returned.

It was in June, 1857, that the land question began to engage the attention of the country, and in no part of the colony was the opposition to the Land Bill, then before the Assembly,

more hearty and unanimous than on Bendigo. The history of the period tells how the agitation led to the Land Convention held in Melbourne, the eventual defeat of the obnoxious measure, and the triumph of the people, many of whose leaders afterwards found seats in Parliament. On the 22nd June, a public meeting was held at the Shamrock Concert Hall, on the land question. Resolutions were carried to the effect that the Lands Bill, introduced by the Haines Government, was utterly opposed to the best interests of the colony, as the retention of the lands by the squatters—a mere fraction of the people—was against both justice and equity, false in principle, injurious in practice, and calculated to retard its social and commercial prosperity; also, that no Bill that did not recognise the right of the people to free access to the land, free selection after survey, time for payment, and a constant supply of at least two millions of acres, surveyed and open for selection, would facilitate the settlement of the population, or meet with the confidence of the country. A third resolution affirmed the desirability of more equitable representation. The meeting was presided over by Mr. J. F. Sullivan, Chairman of the Municipality, and addressed by Messrs. Denovan, Macartney, Knipe, C. Brown, McDougall, Gibbs, Burnside, Stow, McIntyre, Strickland, Wall, J. Brown, Mackay, Harrison, and Harris. Signatures were taken for a monster petition, and 1080 names were attached to it in the course of the evening. The meeting was one of the largest and most enthusiastic indoor meetings held in Bendigo up to this time. Another public demonstration was held on the 6th July to give expression to the determined opposition of the people of Bendigo to the Bill. The effigy of Mr. Michie, one of the members of the Ministry, was burnt during the evening. One of the outcomes of the meeting was the formation of a Bendigo League, to secure the objects desired in connection with the land question, and to deal with such other matters as might arise. On the 13th July, Messrs. G. E. Thomson and R. Benson were appointed, at a public meeting of the Bendigo League, to represent the district at the Land Convention to be held in Melbourne.

In August, 1859, the general election for the Legislative Assembly excited considerable interest. Under the new electoral Act, the Sandhurst Boroughs were to have two members. Mr. Grant did not offer himself for Sandhurst, and Dr. Owens

retired from the contest in Mandurang. The election resulted in the return of Messrs. R. F. Howard and John Henderson for Sandhurst, and Messrs. Brodie and Carpenter for Mandurang.

On the 22nd September, 1859, Mr. J. M. Grant was returned as one of the members for Avoca, for which he held a seat until his death in 1885, a period of 26 years. In noticing his distinguished career, we can hardly improve on the following tribute to his memory, from the pen of the late Mr. Haverfield :—"The name of James Macpherson Grant is one which is inseparably linked with the political history of Victoria. In the early days, when the digging population were intolerably harassed through misgovernment and unwise legislation, Mr. Grant lent his voice to the agitation carried on everywhere on the goldfields for reforms. When that agitation, unproductive of the desired results, culminated in the slaughter at the Eureka Stockade, a number of persons, arrested as insurrectionists, were placed on their trial in Melbourne; and in connection with that gifted barrister, Mr. B. C. Aspinall, and other legal gentlemen, Mr. Grant successfully defended the prisoners. The determined attitude of the diggers, the acquittal of the accused, and the unmistakable expression of public sympathy in Melbourne and elsewhere with the people of the goldfields, induced the Government and the old Legislative Council to pay some heed to the expostulations which had hitherto been vainly addressed to them. If we look around, we see monuments everywhere to the honour and memory of James Macpherson Grant. But the chief of these is the settlement of the lands effected by his able and energetic efforts. His Land Act of 1865 gave vitality, in the first instance, to the agricultural interest, and placed a large and industrious population permanently on the soil previously occupied for purely pastoral purposes. The Act was far from being perfect; and, indeed, he soon found that it was not sufficiently comprehensive for his own purposes. The manner, however, in which he managed to give elasticity to the 42nd section, proved to the people that he was animated by an earnest desire for the promotion of their welfare. The wit that could conceive, and the courage that could carry out the idea of extending a provision, intended solely for one section of the colonists, to the whole population of the country, were of no ordinary kind, and had not the procedure met with

the unqualified approval of the public, Mr. Grant would have experienced a great deal more difficulty than he did in rendering an explanation to Parliament. Under the 42nd section, a person could take up twenty acres in the vicinity of a goldfield. By the alteration made by Mr. Grant, one person could take out eight licenses for twenty acres each, and the whole colony was to be deemed a goldfield. The amended Act, introduced by him in 1869, and passed by the Macpherson Government, continued, up to the time of the passing of the Act of 1884, to be the law of the land. Whether as a Minister or private member, Mr. Grant for many years displayed a degree of ability and zeal which rendered him a popular favourite; and he has established for himself a reputation to which justice must be done by the historian. The death and burial of such a man are events of national interest, and should awaken a grateful remembrance of the benefits conferred by him upon the country."

The death of Mr. Robert Benson, familiarly known as "Pump Handle Benson," occurred on the 11th June, 1860. He arrived in the colony in 1852, and was engaged in all the early political movements. He was a zealous and efficient member of the Reform League, whose efforts contributed so materially to secure for the mining communities a share in the representation of the country, and he was one of the members of the first Mining Board. Prior to his death, financial embarrassments obliged him to relinquish his property, and eventually led to his seeking refuge in the hospital, where he died as stated on the 11th June, in his sixty-first year. A melancholy instance this of the neglect shown by the people to one of their earliest representatives who had done the State some service.

Owing to the resignation by Mr. Brodie of his seat in Parliament for Mandurang on the 15th May, 1861, Mr. J. F. Sullivan was elected for the vacancy without opposition. On the 10th June, Mr. Sullivan accepted the office of Commissioner of Trade and Customs in the Heales Government, and was again returned unopposed. This Government found it difficult to obtain a working majority in the House, which was at sixes and sevens, and applied for a dissolution, which was granted. The election which followed resulted in the rejection of Messrs. Howard and Henderson, the former by only ten votes, and the return of

Messrs. Denovan and Casey. Mr. Denovan was far away at the head of the poll. Mr. Casey was subsequently unseated on the ground of personation by voters, and the seat was awarded to Mr. Howard. For Mandurang, Mr. Sullivan and Dr. Owens were returned.

Mr. John Henderson, who was member for Sandhurst from 1859 to 1861, died in Melbourne in July of the following year. He had for many years been associated with the London Press, and latterly with the Press of Victoria. For a considerable time he was Melbourne correspondent for the *Advertiser*, and for a short time conducted the same journal. His contributions under the *nom de plume* "Publicola," to the *Ballarat Times*, were characterised by considerable vigour and expression.

In July, 1862, Mr. W. D. C. Denovan resigned his seat in the Legislative Assembly, stating that, without independent means, or a remunerative profession in Melbourne, a man could not represent a country constituency in Parliament as he would like to do. This was at a time when there was no such thing as Payment of Members, and before Bendigo and Melbourne were connected by rail. Mr. Denovan's Parliamentary career was so brief that little can be said concerning his legislative services. During his occupancy of the seat, however, he had rendered material aid in the Water Supply question, and was Chairman of a Select Committee appointed to take evidence on the practicability of supplying Castlemaine and Bendigo with water from the River Coliban. The Committee recommended the survey of the proposed route of the aqueduct, and Mr. Denovan subsequently secured a vote of £2,000 for the survey. The Coliban was not undertaken, however, till Mr. Sullivan's advent to office. Mr. Denovan's first claim to be recognised as a public man on Bendigo was won in the early days, when, as one of the leaders of the anti-license movement, and the agitation in favour of representation of the goldfields in Parliament, he laboured heartily and energetically. He was little more than a youth then, and though he may have been chargeable with a few errors of judgment, his sincerity in the cause he espoused was undoubted. A good proof of this was his popularity, which was evident from the high position he occupied on the poll when he stood for Parliament in 1861,

and again in 1879, when the public made a singular demonstration in favour of his appointment as Town Clerk. Mr. Denovan did not offer himself for Legislative honours again ; but he took a keen interest in politics, and was one of the leading spirits for many years in the Bendigo Liberal Association, an organisation which possessed great weight in the district. He was connected with the Press in Ballarat and Bendigo, and served for a brief period as Councillor for Sutton Ward previous to his election as Town Clerk, a position which he still occupies.

The vacant seat was contested by Mr. R. Strickland, and Mr. David Moore of Melbourne. Mr. Strickland was elected by 504 votes.

Mr. J. F. Sullivan having accepted office as Minister of Mines in the McCulloch Ministry, which succeeded that of Mr. O'Shannassy in June, 1863, was returned unopposed for Mandurang on the 8th July. In the same month Dr. Owens, Mr. Sullivan's colleague in the representation of Mandurang, resigned, and Mr. J. J. Casey was elected in his stead by a majority of 144 over Mr. Lewis Macpherson.

Dr. Owens did not re-enter public life. He died in Melbourne on the 26th November, 1866, very suddenly ; and thus passed away a man whose name must for ever be associated with Bendigo's early history. He was a member of the Royal College of Surgeons, and took his degree of M.D. in 1841. The *Advertiser*, in referring to the deceased gentleman, said :— " His memory has a right to be borne in respectful remembrance by everyone on this goldfield, and only less on every other. His name will ever be inseparably connected with the great struggles which terminated in the abolition of the gold license-fee and the concession of Parliamentary representation to the goldfields. They were few in number who took a leading part in effecting the removal of the grievances of the goldfields, and they were fewer still who combined resolution with moderation. Dr. Owens was one of these, and it lent him an influence which was productive of the best results. He was no frothy demagogue or reckless firebrand, but an earnest, thoughtful agitator, influenced by a serious sense of responsibility, and always anxious to take the most moderate way of compassing an object. In Parliament he attained a fair measure of success. He sat there under great disadvantages, his political views were diametrically opposite to

those of the majority of the Assembly, and his private circumstances deprived him of some of that prestige which surrounds a man of ample means; but his fidelity to his party and his constituents was unassailable, no slight thing to say of a man exposed to so much temptation."

Mr. William Hopkins was another gentleman who displayed much activity with regard to public questions. He was upright and honest, and a worthy old friend of civil and religious liberty. In his time he rendered excellent service to the cause of political reform on the goldfield. Under his familiar title, "Old Constitution," he will be remembered by many old Bendigonians.

At the general election in the latter end of 1864, while Mr. Howard was again in the field, Mr. Strickland announced that his own business required all his attention. During his career as a legislator, he had gained general respect by his political honesty and attention to his public duties. The advent in Bendigo of several advocates of Protection had resulted in the splitting up of the Bendigo Liberal Association. Mr. John Halfey presented himself as a candidate—a comparatively unknown man so far as Sandhurst was concerned,—and the Protectionists pinned their faith to Halfey and Macarthy, the latter of whom was better known locally than his companion in arms. The other new candidate was Mr. Thomas M'Ilwraith, now Sir Thomas M'Ilwraith, lately Premier of Queensland. The other section of the Bendigo Liberal Association resolved to support Mr. Howard and Mr. M'Ilwraith. The election took place on the 3rd November, and resulted in the return of Messrs. Howard and Halfey. Messrs. Casey and Sullivan, the retiring members for Mandurang, were returned unopposed.

In January, 1865, a meeting of the burgesses was held for the purpose of protesting against the proposed new Protective tariff, but the Protectionists were strong, and carried the meeting against its promoters.

Towards the close of 1865 there was a serious crisis in politics, owing to the Legislative Council laying aside the Appropriation and Customs Bills, because they were tacked together. The consequence of this action was a conflict between the two Houses, which lasted some time, and aroused strong feeling in the country. The Protectionists who were represented

in the Ministry (McCulloch's), whose views were embodied in the Customs Bill, had obtained the victory at the general election, but there was a strong Opposition party, who were backed up by the fact that the Legislative Council was within its rights in rejecting Bills sent up to it in such an unconstitutional manner. Public meetings were held in Bendigo, at which the course of the Ministry was approved. Those who supported the Government considered that, although it may have acted unconstitutionally, the Council was not justified in inflicting great injury on the country by throwing out the Appropriation Bill.

The beginning of 1866 found the country in the throes of a general election, this having been the upshot of the deadlock between the two branches of the Legislature. The Mandurang election was the first decided locally, the two sitting members, Messrs. Sullivan (Minister of Mines) and Casey, being opposed by Mr. M'Intyre, the Mayor of Sandhurst. The odds against the latter were such as it was almost impossible to contend against successfully, but his defeat was more signal than was anticipated. For the Sandhurst electorate, the retiring members, Messrs. Halfey and Howard, were again candidates, Mr. Robert Burrowes also coming forward. Messrs. Halfey and Burrowes were the Ministerial candidates, and the election resulted in their return and Mr. Howard's rejection.

Mr. R. F. Howard, whose defeat was in a great measure owing to his opposition to the principle of Protection, had represented Sandhurst for seven years, having been returned in 1859. He brought under the notice of Parliament the way in which the mining communities were weighted with special taxation, and with the assistance of Mr. Brodie and other goldfield members, obtained a reduction of lease rents, and also a reduction of the duty on gold, which was finally taken off altogether. Mr. Howard, in conjunction with Mr. Vincent Pyke, brought in a Bill for the establishment of a Mint in Victoria, the ultimate effect of which was, as anticipated, to secure for gold the uniform price of £3 17s. per ounce. Mr. Howard also took action in obtaining Insolvent Courts for the country centres, and the Bill for creating local Insolvency Courts was passed on the recommendation of a Select Committee, of which he was Chairman. Previously, the only Insolvent Court in the colony was at Melbourne, and the inconvenience to residents of the country can be imagined. When the

Water Supply question was engaging public attention, he was appointed a member of the Select Committee of the Assembly for the purpose of taking evidence on the feasibility of the Coliban Scheme. Mr. Howard and Mr. Brodie were also instrumental in obtaining a grant of £10,000 for prospecting purposes, having been the first to bring before the House the desirability of prospecting being encouraged.

The Bendigo Gas Company's Bill was carried through Parliament by Mr. Howard. He opposed payment of members, protection, and the present system of education, which, however, was not established till some years later. He was a fearless and outspoken member, giving an honest expression of his opinions, regardless of the effect they had on his hearers. He expressed himself with blunt straightforwardness, and never could be accused of trimming his sails to catch a favourable breeze. Mr. Howard is now the actuary of the Sandhurst Savings Bank, a position which he has held for many years.

The result of the general elections in 1866, which gave a great majority for the Ministry, did not facilitate a settlement of the dispute between the two Houses, but it was eventually settled at a joint conference. The close of the deadlock was followed by the recall of Governor Darling by the Home Government.

In March, 1867, Mr. J. F. Sullivan was sworn in as Commissioner of Railways in the M'Culloch Government, from which he had retired in the previous year; he was returned unopposed.

The election in February, 1868, turned upon the Darling Grant question, a vote of £20,000 to Governor Darling, who had been recalled by the Imperial Government, and the right of the Government to put the grant in the Appropriation Bill. A conflict had resulted between the two branches of Legislature over this subject, and an appeal to the country resulted. The Sandhurst candidates were the two members, Messrs. Burrowes and Halfey, and Mr. Mackay. Messrs. Burrowes and Mackay came forward in the Ministerial interest, and the result of the election was their return, and the rejection of Mr. Halfey.

For Mandurang, Messrs. Casey and Sullivan were returned without opposition. The Darling Grant question continued unsettled for some time, and there were two changes of Ministry within a few months. On the construction of the second

M'Culloch Ministry, in July, Messrs. Casey and Sullivan were included as Ministers of Justice, and Mines.

The anniversary celebration of the Bendigo Liberal Association, in February, 1870, was one of the greatest political demonstrations that ever took place on Bendigo. There was first a banquet at the Rifles' Orderly Room, and then a public meeting at the Lyceum Theatre, which was filled, the dress circle being chiefly occupied by ladies. Speeches were delivered by the following gentlemen :—Mr. James Moore (who presided), Messrs. M'Culloch, Casey, G. V. Smith, Rolfe, Vale, Higinbotham, Sullivan, Burrowes, Mackay, James, Grant, Cope, and Burrt, M's.L.A., and Messrs. Denovan, Connelly, Clark, Yeo, and Strickland. Such a list furnished a perfect feast of eloquence, sufficient even to satisfy a very gourmand of rhetoric.

In April, 1870, Mr. Angus Mackay accepted office as Minister of Mines, in the third M'Culloch Ministry, and thus, for the first time, Sandhurst was represented in the Government of the day. The people of Bendigo were not slow to appreciate the advantages of having a Minister of the Crown as a representative, and in the unanimous desire to have the Coliban Water Scheme pushed on towards completion, no opposition was shown to Mr. Mackay's re-election. That gentleman joined the Government with the avowed intention of advancing the Coliban works, and in this had the assurance of Mr. M'Culloch that the Government would lend every assistance.

At the general elections in 1871, Mr. Sullivan retired from the contest for Mandurang, and his seat was secured by Mr. Thompson Moore. For Sandhurst, Messrs. Mackay and Burrowes were re-elected.

In June, 1872, upon the formation of the Francis Government, Mr. Mackay accepted office as Minister of Mines, and Mr. Casey as Minister of Lands. Mr. Casey was returned unopposed for Mandurang, but Mr. Mackay met with opposition in Sandhurst, where Mr. Garsed came forward as a supporter of the Duffy Government, which had been displaced. Mr. Mackay's first meeting at the Town Hall was long remembered as one of the most disorderly ever held in Bendigo; it remained for the miners at Long Gully, which was his stronghold, to give him the hearing that Sandhurst refused, and at this meeting the policy of the Government with regard to the Education question was

indicated. He stated that he had joined the Ministry on condition that Mr. Francis and his colleagues would be willing to support a measure for education, on the lines of an Education Bill framed by Mr. Wrixon and himself, when members of the M'Culloch Ministry two years before. The election took place on the 26th June, and resulted in the return of Mr. Mackay, by a majority of 905 votes over Mr. Garsed.

Mining accidents had been very plentiful on Bendigo from the time of the early rush, and the numerous accidents on the goldfields generally had prompted the Government of the day to take steps to lessen, by means of legislation, the liability to accidents in the mines. It was in 1873 that Mr. Angus Mackay, Minister of Mines, had the Regulation of Mines' Act passed through Parliament, and its provisions came into operation on 1st January, 1874. This Act met with the strong opposition of mining managers and others, who have since come to regard it as one of the best—if not the best—pieces of mining legislation ever passed in this country. It had the effect of reducing accidents by fifty per cent.

At the election in 1874, Messrs. Mackay and Burrowes were again returned for Sandhurst, and Messrs Casey and Moore for Mandurang. At the same time, Mr. Sullivan was elected for Collingwood.

Owing to the illness of Mr. J. G. Francis, the Premier, and his retirement from Parliament, there was a reconstruction of the Ministry in July, 1874. Mr. Angus Mackay retained the offices of Mines and Public Instruction.

Mr. James Forrester Sullivan died on 3rd February, 1876, at the age of sixty. He was a native of Ireland, and proceeded at an early age to America, where he fought in the Mexican War, having joined the Louisiana Volunteers, in which force he held the rank of lieutenant. Subsequently he came to Australia, and arrived on Bendigo in 1853. Mr. Sullivan was the prime mover in the establishment of the Bendigo municipality in 1855. Together with Messrs. T. J. Connelly and R. Burrowes, he started the first fire brigade in Bendigo, in 1855; he was the first president of the committee of the Benevolent Asylum, in the foundation of which he took a very energetic part. He was also one of the prime movers in the formation of the Mechanics' Institute, in 1854, and in 1856 he was elected president. He

was amongst those who assisted in the establishment of the Bendigo Hospital—in fact, there was no movement during his residence in Bendigo, which had for its object the advancement of the place and the welfare of the public, in which he was not concerned. "As a public man (said the *Advertiser* of the 4th February, 1876), he possessed qualities which are invaluable, especially in young communities, and, as a politician, he made a mark of which he might well have been proud. He was a forcible and fluent speaker, and always commanded attention and respect, whether on platform or in Parliament. In private life he ever exhibited a generous, genial, and amiable disposition. A kinder or more benevolent man it would have been impossible to meet with anywhere. Yet, with all his kindness and almost womanly softness of character in his communion with friends, and in his dealings towards the unfortunate and suffering, he possessed withal a brave heart, and was endowed with even iron nerves. It was not in him to flinch when faced by dangers or difficulties. He was, indeed, a gentleman and a soldier, every inch of him."

CHAPTER XIII.

POLITICAL.—*(Continued.)*

"We are obliged to act so far as our power reacheth, towards the good of the whole community."

—*Swift.*

1877-1891.—The M'Culloch Ministry—The 11th May, 1877—Mr. R. Clark—Mr. J. M'Intyre—Mr. H. R. Williams—Dr. Quick—Mr. Fisher—Mr. H. M'Coll—Reform of the Constitution—Upper House Elections—Mr. C. Yeo—Death of Mr. Robert Clark—Death of Mr. Hugh M'Coll—Mr. J. M. Highett—Mr. J. H. M'Coll—Mr. J. T. Brown—Mr. A. S. Bailes—Death of Mr. Angus Mackay—Mr. D. C. Sterry—The Veteran Representative, Mr. R. Burrowes—Upper House Elections.

IN 1877, the M'Culloch Ministry was in power. Though in a majority in Parliament, it was in a minority in the country, as the general election in May proved. This condition of things was due to the harsh treatment of the Berry Ministry of 1875, which was bundled out of office before it had had a chance of showing its worth. The "stonewall" and "iron hand" followed.

An Electoral Bill had been carried, increasing the number of members from seventy-eight to eighty-six, and Sandhurst, which formerly had two members, was to have three. The members, Messrs. Mackay and Burrowes, had opposed Mr. Berry's policy of obstruction, and they were again in the field. Mr. John M'Intyre, who had previously been unsuccessful in his efforts to gain a seat, came forward on the independent ticket. Mr. Robert Clark, the very popular member for Barkly Ward in the City Council, had been diligently canvassing, and came forward as a supporter of the "stonewall" party, Messrs. Blackham and Gray also announcing themselves as followers of Mr. Berry. The election took place on the 11th May, and resulted in the return

of Messrs. Clark, M'Intyre and Blackham, and the rejection of Messrs. Mackay and Burrowes, the former by only eighty-eight votes. There was also an additional seat for Mandurang, and Mr. H. R. Williams, an out-and-out Berryite, was returned along with Messrs. Casey and Thompson Moore.

The resignation of the M'Culloch Ministry, who mustered, all told, twenty-six followers out of eighty-six in the new House, took place before Parliament met, and the second Berry Ministry assumed office. Not long after the Sandhurst election it was discovered that Mr. Blackham, by a singular omission on his part, was disqualified from taking his seat. It was declared vacant, and at an election in July, Mr. Mackay was returned by 207 votes over Mr. Blackham, as the colleague of Messrs. Clark and M'Intyre. With his large majority, it was generally thought that Mr. Berry would retain office without any difficulty during the whole period of Parliament, but although he did actually do so, the great majority had dwindled away to such an extent that parties were very evenly divided at the close of the Session of 1879. This had been brought about by Black Wednesday, the Embassy to England, and numerous other acts of the Government. The desire for Reform of the Constitution was shared in by all parties, but the proposals of Mr. Berry did not meet with general favour, and when the critical division was taken, the Ministry, though in a majority of two, failed to secure an actual majority of the House. An appeal to the country followed in February, 1880. Mr. Berry, Mr. Longmore, and Sir Bryan O'Loghlen visited Bendigo, and were accorded a great reception, which convinced them that the Sandhurst representatives, who were all members of the Opposition, would be rejected. Mr. Clark (who had crossed the floor to the Opposition side) Mr. M'Intyre, and Mr. Mackay were the gentlemen thus doomed to political extinction. The latter having become managing director of the Sydney *Daily Telegraph*, did not offer himself for re-election, but there were six candidates for the seat. The Oppositionists were Messrs. Clark, M'Intyre and Burrowes, and the Ministerialists Messrs. Blackham, Sterry, and White. The election was fiercely contested, and resulted in the three Oppositionists, Messrs. Clark, Burrowes, and M'Intyre, carrying the three seats. In Mandurang the candidates were Messrs. Thompson Moore, H. R. Williams (who had left the Berry party), and Casey, Opposition Candidates, and Messrs. Fisher, Forshaw,

and M'Coll, Ministerial candidates. One of the results was the unexpected rejection of Mr. Casey, who had represented Mandurang since 1862. Messrs. T. Moore, H. R. Williams, and J. Fisher were returned.

Mr. Casey had represented Mandurang for eighteen years, and during that time had filled important positions in several Governments. He was specially successful in administering the Lands Department; on his motion the Victorian *Hansard* was established. Mr. Casey was one of the earliest advocates of the abolition of State aid to religion and denominational education. He warmly supported Federation, and in his public utterances urged as a preliminary to Political Federation, that the Colonies should be invited to concur in reciprocal legislation upon such questions as Extradition, Insolvency, Probate and Administration, Marriage, Naturalisation, Transfer of Lands, Patents and Copyrights, etc. As Law Officer he initiated the system of appointing magistrates to districts instead of the whole Colony, and effected changes in connection with the jurisdiction of the County Courts. While Minister of Lands he re-organised the Department of Lands, and re-constituted the Survey Branch. As a barrister, Mr. Casey enjoyed a good practice, and shortly after his retirement from politics was appointed a Judge of the County Court. He was the author of *Casey's Justices' Manual*, a text-book which has been in extensive use among the magistracy. In 1878 he visited Paris as President of the Victorian Commission.

The general election of February, 1880, was followed by the resignation of the Berry Ministry, and the formation of the Service Ministry. Mr. Robert Clark was offered the portfolio of Minister of Mines, which he accepted, and coming before the electors, was returned without opposition. Mr. Service was no more successful with his Reform Scheme than Mr. Berry, and another appeal to the constituencies was made in July, 1880, after the shortest Parliament on record. Messrs. Clark, Burrowes and M'Intyre offered themselves in the Ministerial interest, and the only Opposition candidates were Messrs. Quick and White. Mr. M'Intyre's seat was secured by Mr. Quick.

Mr. M'Intyre was a prominent public man on Bendigo long before he entered Parliament. Although not an active member of the "Red Ribbon" organisation in the early days, when the License Tax was the *bête noir* of the diggers, he was a strong

sympathiser. He was a prominent mover in connection with the land question, and a determined advocate for "unlocking the lands." He was elected as a member of the Mining Court in 1857, and strenuously opposed the arbitrary powers of the gold-field commissioners. He was one of the first members of the Mining Board, and as Chairman of that body, took a prominent part in framing the first code of mining bye-laws. When Mr. Ireland proposed an amendment of the Mining Statute, advocating provisions distasteful to the mining community, Mr. M'Intyre actively opposed it. He was a member of the Borough Council for many years, and occupied the position of mayor six years in succession. In 1876 he was one of the honorary Commissioners for Victoria at the Philadelphia Centennial Exhibition, and fulfilled the duties of that position with energy and ability. While he represented Sandhurst he opposed the reform proposals of the Berry Ministry, and after his election for Maldon he was one of the most consistent opponents of the late Coalition Government. Mr. M'Intyre has been an excellent representative of the Maldon constituency. Since his connection with it he brought about an early completion of the railway, and succeeded in connecting the district with the Coliban Scheme of water supply, which had previously been considered impossible. He has also lent very material aid in developing the resources of the district, and through his instrumentality a considerable amount of foreign capital has been invested in the local mines. Mr. M'Intyre has always been very out-spoken, occasionally, perhaps, a little too impulsive, but the candour with which he has expressed himself with regard to the administration of public affairs at critical periods in the colony's history, has secured for him many friends.

For Mandurang, in July, 1880, the retiring members were Messrs. Moore, Williams, and Fisher. Mr. Moore had remained true to his colours, and came forward as a Ministerialist; Mr. Williams had returned penitently to Mr. Berry's allegiance, and, with Mr. Fisher, who was returned as a supporter of Mr. Berry, and Mr. Hugh M'Coll, ran together on the Opposition ticket. Mr. Moore had, for his fellow candidates, Messrs. Highett and Tupper; the result was that Mr. Moore's seat was secured by Mr. M'Coll, and the three Ministerialists were rejected. The Service Ministry was defeated, and Mr. Berry, in constructing his

Government, rewarded Mr. Williams for returning to his fold by offering him the position of Minister of Mines, an appointment, by the way, which did not please the party. On presenting himself for re-election, Mr. Williams was opposed by Mr. Thompson Moore, but was returned.

The Berry Ministry held office for one year, being succeeded by the O'Loghlen Administration. In August, 1881, Mr. Burrowes accepted the position of Minister of Mines, and was returned without opposition. Under the new Constitution (a Reform Bill having been carried in 1881), the Provinces for the Upper House were re-adjusted, Bendigo becoming a part of the Northern Province. An opportunity offered in November, 1882, for the return of a local man to the Upper Chamber, and Mr. Sterry was elected by 1,986 votes, as against 1,826 recorded for Mr. W. I Winter. Two years later, in 1884, the latter was returned unopposed for the seat rendered vacant by the death of Sir W. H. F. Mitchell.

The political world assumed a quiescent state after the settlement of the Reform trouble, and the O'Loghlen Ministry, with its "Peace, Progress, and Prosperity" motto, undoubtedly had much to do with the restoration of public confidence. The term of Parliament was not up till July, 1883, but by a *coup*, in the shape of a dissolution in February, the Government hoped to secure a majority at the polls. The old Service and Berry parties coalesced however, and the result was the overthrow of the Ministry, Sir Bryan O'Loghlen being among the defeated. For Sandhurst, the three members experienced no difficulty in securing their seats, the unsuccessful aspirants being Messrs. R. White and C. Perry.

The Mandurang election resulted in the defeat of Messrs. Williams and Fisher, and the return of Messrs. T. Moore, H. M'Coll, and C. Yeo. The general elections were followed by the formation of the Service-Berry Coalition Government.

Mr. Robert Clark, who had for some time been in bad health, died in April, 1883, after a long and painful illness. Mr. Clark came to Bendigo in 1860, and with the exception of two periods, which he spent in New Zealand, he was connected with Bendigo till his death. During his earlier years in the district he worked as a miner, and his acquaintance with the hardships which were associated with the miner's occupation led him to seek the

assistance of Mr. Morris Collmann, Mr. W. G. Blackham, Mr. A. Mackay, and other gentlemen, in an effort to have the hours of the miners limited to eight. Mr. Clark carried on the agitation not only on Bendigo, but also in Stawell, Clunes, Ballarat, Blackwood, and other places, and his exertions in the cause were gratefully remembered for years by the miners in those localities. After some years the movement resulted successfully, and in the Regulation of Mines Act, the eight hours' was legalised. Mr. Clark subsequently assisted in having the eight hours' boon extended to engine-drivers and railway employés. Mr. Clark paid great attention to local wants, and it was, no doubt, owing in a great measure to this feature of his membership that he became so popular. Self taught, to a great extent, he could not be described as a learned man, but he had a good practical education, a keen perception of the wants of his fellow men, and an activity and energy which rendered success tolerably certain in whatever he attempted. As a speaker he was earnest, impressive and fluent, and generally gained a patient hearing. As a Minister of the Crown his term of office was too short—just five months—to afford a proper test of his efficiency, but there is no doubt that he possessed many qualities to fit him for the position. He always manifested a warm interest in the miners, and in addition to the active part he took in the eight hours' question, he was the foremost figure on the side of the miners when the proposal was made in 1879, to reduce their wages.

A desire was expressed that Mr. Angus Mackay, who had formerly represented Sandhurst, should be invited to come forward for the seat rendered vacant by Mr. Clark's death, and that gentleman resigned his position in Sydney, and consented to do so. He was opposed by Mr. H. R. Williams, who had been rejected by Mandurang in February. Mr. Mackay won by a majority of 527.

On the death of Mr. Hugh M'Coll, two years later, in April, 1885, Mr. Williams made another unsuccessful attempt to gain a seat for Mandurang, Mr. Highett being returned. Mr. M'Coll, who was sixty-seven years of age when he died, will be best remembered for the active part he took in all water supply movements. He was chiefly known for his enthusiasm and persistency in advocating a grand system of water conservation and distribution for the northern plains. He acted as Secretary

to the Coliban Scheme Committee for several years, and his zeal and energy largely contributed to the success of the movement for carrying out the Coliban Scheme of water supply for the three important goldfields of Bendigo, Castlemaine, and Maldon, and the adjacent districts. He then turned his attention to the great national question of supplying the north and north-west districts with water, and he laboured in this cause with a zeal, energy, and perseverance that nothing could exhaust. Many of the papers he drew up on the subject displayed an amount of ability and research for which he has not received due credit. Indeed, his action with reference to the Grand Canal Scheme, for the irrigation of the northern plains, was very much misunderstood, and it is only in recent years that his efforts have been appreciated as they deserved to be. He exhausted his own means in the necessary surveys and examination of the country, and his enthusiasm and evident sincerity brought him a considerable amount of support. It was generally acknowledged that it was Mr. M'Coll who first directed the attention of colonists to the importance of irrigating the northern districts in a systematic way, and the whole colony has since learned the lesson taught by him, that by water conservation and irrigation in the dry country districts, the wealth and stability of the colony are materially increased.

At the general election in March, 1886, the old members were again candidates, though Mr. Mackay's failing health rendered it doubtful whether he would offer himself. The teetotal party ran two candidates, with the only result, however, of securing the defeat of Mr. Mackay and the return of Mr. Bailes, which might have been foreseen easily at the time. Dr. Quick and Mr. Burrowes were also returned.

For Mandurang two of the members lost their seats, viz., Messrs. Moore and Yeo, who were displaced by Messrs. J. H. M'Coll (son of the late Hugh M'Coll) and J. T. Brown. Mr. M'Coll polled more votes than were recorded at any election for the Assembly before or since, namely, 3,623.

Mr. Thompson Moore may yet find one of the electorates into which Mandurang was sub-divided anxious to obtain his services as a representative. During his career as a member for Mandurang he showed himself most attentive to the requirements of all parts of it. This is saying a great deal, for the constituency was

one of the largest and most unwieldy in the colony. Mr. Moore was as popular in Parliament as he was in his constituency, and while he did not claim to possess any of the attributes of a statesman, he was at all times a very influential member.

Four months later (in July, 1886), Mr. Angus Mackay breathed his last after a long illness. He was almost a native of Sydney, having arrived there when two years of age, and he came to Bendigo in 1853. Mr. Mackay left a record which is certainly unequalled by that of any other representative Sandhurst has had, with the exception, perhaps, of Mr. J. M. Grant, whose claim to distinction was won, properly speaking, when member for Avoca. Mr. Mackay's efforts in connection with water supply alone were sufficient to give him a high place in the affections of the people. But he displayed his great ability in the discussion of various questions in Parliament, and was early considered a prominent figure in debate. He took a deep interest in the educational problem, and, with Mr. Wrixon, framed the first Education Bill, the leading principles of which were adopted in the Act of 1872, passed by the Francis Government, of which Mr. Mackay was a member. Although Mr. Mackay was one of the foremost men in this educational reform, Melbourne Press writers have always been inclined to deprive him of the credit to which he was entitled. It was this and other slights put upon him in later years by the Melbourne Press, which led Mr. J. B. Patterson to remark at a public gathering at Castlemaine, on the night of his death, "that he was only reiterating a frequently expressed regret when he said that Mr. Mackay's worth and ability had not been recognised to the extent they should have been by the Legislature and the people of Victoria. A more upright and honourable man never stood on the public platform in Victoria." This is a high tribute coming from an opponent in politics. When his death was referred to in Parliament, several members spoke in the highest terms concerning his services to the country, and Mr. McLellan said that "having held the position of Minister of Mines, he (Mr. McLellan) was in a position to judge of the capabilities of the deceased gentleman, and he could say that the goldfields of Victoria were more indebted to the late Angus Mackay than to any other man who had ever held a seat in the Assembly. The only intelligible

legislation in connection with the goldfields was passed at the instance of that gentleman, and this, together with the regulations he framed in connection with the Mining Department, and the many things he did with regard to the water supply of the colony, would cause him to be remembered by future generations." It is almost needless to say that Mr. McLellan referred more particularly to Mr. Mackay's Regulation of Mines Act. A few figures will show what this Act has accomplished. We have no figures before us to make an accurate comparison with the years previous to 1874, when the Act came into operation, but we find that while ninety out of 46,512 miners were killed in 1874, the first year of the operation of the Act, the number killed in 1888 was thirty-six out of 25,142 miners. The difference is more marked in relation to the number injured, for whereas the number in 1874 was 245, in 1888 it was only seventy-six. But if we take the statistics of accidents in quartz mines only, we find that the decrease of the rate of accident is much greater. In 1874 between three and four out of every 1,000 miners met their deaths in quartz mines, and in 1888 the rate had decreased to less than two out of every 1,000. In 1874 over ten out of every 1,000 miners met with injury in quartz mines, and in 1888 the number per thousand was less than four. Figures which prove that the rate of accidents has been reduced one half in fifteen years during the operation of a measure to prevent mining accidents, speak eloquently in favour of the immense good it has effected. As a Minister, Mr. Mackay earned much distinction. In addition to his legislation as Minister of Mines, he presided over the Education Department with marked ability; the general opinion being that the Department was never in a better state of organisation than when he was at the head. Mr. Mackay was a man of considerable literary ability. His early training had been for the Presbyterian Church, and he had as a youth earned distinction as a scholar. We cannot conclude this notice better than by quoting the following tribute by "Timotheus," the political writer in the *Argus*:—"The miners would be ungrateful if they did not respect his memory, for he pushed through the mining accidents' legislation which has reduced the former death-rate one-half—has decreased to that extent the number of cripples, orphans and widows. A legislator has not often

the chance of so directly lessening the sum of human misery. 'He is the most useful member of the Cabinet of all,' said a deceased Premier of the deceased politician. 'We are always ready with a reply when our measures are challenged, for Mackay has criticised every point before.' It was natural, therefore, that Mr. Mackay should drift into the critics' corner during the Coalition period. . . . . Mr. Mackay never intrigued for office—was never suspected of so doing—never took up a cause except on its merits—never forfeited a friendship—and did work which will endure. And when all that can be said with truth, it points to a record rare in politics."

The people of Bendigo erected a handsome monument to Mr. Mackay's memory.

The Service-Berry Coalition was continued under the leadership of Messrs. Gillies and Deakin, and one of the chief acts of the Parliament of 1886-9 was the passage of an Electoral Bill by which Mandurang and Sandhurst were split up. Sandhurst proper was given two members instead of three; Sandhurst South, one; Eaglehawk, one; Mandurang, one; and Gunbower, one. Dr. Quick and Messrs. Burrowes and Bailes chose Sandhurst, leaving South Sandhurst to new men. Messrs. McColl and J. T. Brown contested Gunbower, and Mr. Highett came forward for Mandurang.

For Sandhurst Messrs. Burrowes and Bailes were returned, and Dr. Quick rejected. Mr. D. C. Sterry, who had resigned his seat in the Upper House, was elected for South Sandhurst; Mr. H. R. Williams for Eaglehawk by eighteen votes over Mr. Kirkwood; Mr. McColl for Gunbower; and Mr. Highett for Mandurang.

Dr. Quick's retirement from public life was brought about by one of those unaccountable fits which occasionally come over constituencies. He had steadily won for himself a high position as a Parliamentary debater, and his rejection was a distinct loss to the House. Dr. Quick, before entering Parliament, had a career on the Press, having been connected successively with the *Bendigo Evening News*, *Independent* and *Advertiser*, and subsequently with the Melbourne *Age*. From 1874 to 1878 he attended lectures at the University, and was called to the Bar in the latter year. He was elected for

Sandhurst as a supporter of Mr. Berry's Reform Scheme, and on the defeat of that Government in 1881 he sat in opposition to the O'Loghlen Government. He was also a critic of the Service-Berry Government during most of its term of office, but was offered a portfolio in the Gillies-Deakin Government in 1886. He declined the offer, however, (which many people considered a mistake on his part), and sat in Opposition during the next three years. In 1882 Dr. Quick had the degree of Doctor of Laws conferred upon him. He has always taken a keen interest in the land question, and wrote a book, entitled, *History of the Land Tenure in Victoria.* During his connection with the Assembly he assisted in perfecting the mining legislation of the period, and with Mr. Bailes, introduced a Bill defining the hours of work in mines. Dr. Quick introduced the first Bill for the disfranchisement of Chinese voters, and agitated until the Government of the day brought in a Chinese Poll Tax Bill. He brought in and passed a Bill permitting persons, charged with offences against the Regulation of Mines Act, to give evidence on their own behalf; and passed and got incorporated in the Judicature Act a clause providing for an appeal to the Full Court on questions of law in all criminal cases, a measure of legal reform which is now being agitated for in England. Since his rejection by the electors of Sandhurst he has devoted himself assiduously to the practice of his profession, and as a barrister, now enjoys an established reputation.

Mr. Burrowes has represented Sandhurst in Parliament since 1866, with the exception of a brief interval from 1877 to 1880. He had manifested his interest in public affairs some years previously, however, and in November, 1855, proposed Mr. Robert Benson as a suitable candidate for Parliament. He also served for a period as a Councillor before entering Parliament, and was Chairman of the Municipality in 1862. Mr. Burrowes did not obtain a place in any Ministry till 1881, when he became Minister of Mines in the O'Loghlen Government. He had, however, been frequently consulted with regard to the legislation proposed by those Ministries of which Mr. Mackay was a member, and due regard was paid to his opinions, especially in connection with the framing of mining enactments. When in office as Minister of Mines, he

was in a position to obtain definite action on the part of the Minister of Public Works in regard to the erection of the new Government offices in Bendigo, which had been promised years before. It was also chiefly through his instrumentality at this time that the City Council was enabled to obtain a Crown grant for the Bath Corner property. Amongst other legislation carried by Mr. Burrowes while in office, was the Act extending the Eight Hours' principle to engine-drivers employed on mines. This was a great boon to the engine-drivers, whose long hours were a continual menace to the safety of the miners. Mr. Burrowes also introduced the Residence Areas Act, which gave the power to the miner to sell, let, mortgage, or bequeath to his heirs, his quarter-acre allotment. As this was legislation for which the mining population had been anxious for years, his services in the matter were much appreciated. Another measure which was passed during Mr. Burrowes's tenure of office was the Act validating sales and forfeiture of shares. Mr. Burrowes was a successful administrator. He held the balance even between mine-owners and miners, and possessed the confidence of both parties. While extending due consideration to mining enterprise, he showed neither fear nor favour in administering the regulations which control mining. In proof of Mr. Burrowes' faithful services to the electors of Bendigo, there can be no better testimony than the long continued confidence of the public. Out of eleven elections he has only lost one, and in 1889 he received the active support of many who were not born when he first entered Parliament. Mr. Burrowes has gained the reputation of being one of the best informed men in the colony on Parliamentary practice, and in the House is confidently looked to for a solution of knotty points in connection with the forms and usages of Parliament. When his time comes to quit the political arena, he will do so with an unblemished record, and both within and without Parliament, a high reputation for uprightness and integrity.

Mr. Bailes has won popularity as a representative in a great measure by his attention to local wants. He has also devoted himself to the work of ameliorating the lot of the working miner, and among other things may be mentioned his amendment of the Regulation of Mines Act, by which the hours of labour

in mines have been more clearly defined. In this he had the assistance of Dr. Quick. The "Bailes-Munro" compromise, by which the passage of the Amending Licensing Bill of 1887 was secured, must also be associated with Mr. Bailes' Parliamentary career. It consisted of a series of amendments which secured advantageous terms for the proprietors of smaller hotels. Since the passage of this Act, Mr. Bailes has submitted an Amending Bill giving power to the owner and licensee of a public-house to surrender the license and receive compensation as if the license were taken away by a Local Option vote. It will probably pass this session. Another measure of local interest was the Residence Areas' Amendment Act introduced by Mr. Bailes. It was divided into two parts, one giving residence area holders upon leases the power to purchase their areas to a limited depth, the other enabling them to pay for their areas by instalments extending over ten years. The latter provision was agreed to, and Mr. Bailes was endeavouring, at the time of writing to pass the former into law also. Mr. Bailes has tried unsuccessfully to legislate with regard to the tribute question. He has figured prominently in connection with such matters as the ventilation of mines, extension of water supply, forest conservation, and, having summoned a caucus of mining members, was the first to suggest the appointment of a Gold Mining Commission, which was afterwards given effect to by the Gillies-Deakin Government.

As a member of the Legislative Council, Mr. Sterry took a prominent part in passing the Mining on Private Property Bill. He also introduced and passed useful amendments in the Local Government Act, and passed a Bill for the better protection of game. He acted on the Lunacy Commission in 1887. Since his election to the Assembly he introduced, in conjunction with Mr. Williams, an Amending Mining on Private Property Bill, and in conjunction with Mr. Bailes, amending Bills on the subjects of Residence Areas and Licensing, also a Bill to extend and encourage the sale of colonial wines. Mr. Sterry has been an active local member, and in addition to his services as municipal councillor and legislator, he has been a staunch supporter of the mining industry, and of the Bendigo Agricultural and Horticultural Society, of which he has been president for several years.

Mr. J. H. McColl has been an active member, and while closely watching the requirements of his constituency, he has

devoted himself to a study of the irrigation question. In this, he manifests his desire to follow in the footsteps of his father, through whose zeal and enthusiasm the question is so prominent to-day.

During the session of 1890, Mr. H. R. Williams passed an Amendment of the Mining on Private Property Act, granting facilities to Companies to mine under private allotments at a depth of not less than 400 feet from the surface, without being liable for other than surface damages. Since this measure came into operation, extensive use has been made of its provisions.

During recent years considerable interest has been taken in elections for the Northern Province in the Upper House. In March, 1886, Mr. Francis Robertson died, and Mr. W. P. Simpson was elected by 2,371 votes against 2,098 recorded for Mr. Simon Fraser. In September, 1888, Mr. Simpson was opposed by Mr. Halfey and Mr. Macintosh, but was returned by an overwhelming majority, polling 2,692 against 1,388 for Mr. Halfey, and 1,318 for Mr. Macintosh. In 1889, the seat resigned by Mr. Sterry was secured by Mr. J. H. Abbott without the trouble of a contest. On the resignation of Mr. Simpson in the same year, Mr. Illingworth was elected by 2,521 against 2,458 recorded for Mr. Jacob Cohn, and in September, a new seat created for the Province was obtained by Mr. G. Simmie, who polled 3,101 against 2,734 recorded for Mr. J. Sternberg. In 1890 Mr. W. I. Winter-Irving was re-elected unopposed, and in April, 1891, on the resignation of Mr. Illingworth, Mr. Sternberg was returned without the worry of a contest.

Of the Northern Province members, Mr. J. H. Abbott has been most identified with Bendigo, having arrived in 1852. He has proved himself a sterling citizen, and has been connected with almost every local movement of importance. As stated in our seventh chapter, he was the originator of the Hospital Sunday movement, not only in Bendigo, but in Australia, a fact which is certainly entitled to be placed on record. His connection with municipal and other institutions is dealt with in other chapters.

CHAPTER XIV.

Municipal.

"For forms of government let fools contest;
Whate'er is best administer'd is best."
—*Pope.*

1856-91—The Sandhurst Municipality—The Sludge Question—Sandhurst a Borough—Mr. M'Intyre the First Mayor—The Four Towns' Bill—Sandhurst Divided into Wards—The Market Site—The Town Hall—Sandhurst a City—Cr. Joseph's Loan—Statistics—List of Mayors and Councillors.—The Eaglehawk Municipality—Proclaimed a Borough—The Town Hall—Mayors and Councillors—The Huntly, Marong, and Strathfieldsaye Shire Councils—Raywood Borough.

WE have seen how the public spirit of the goldfield residents successfully secured their emancipation from an oppressive form of government, and their participation in the representative system of legislation. Such achievements were only the results of a patient and persevering energy, which was not to be turned aside from its course by the numerous obstacles in its path. But the leaders of the movement which had secured so much were not content with what they had done. They did not rest from their labours after the foundation of representation had been laid. There was a home to be built up, and a community to be established. The Government surveyor had planned the streets, but they had yet to be formed. Thus, after having secured representation in the Parliament of the country by the return of Messrs. Grant and Benson to the Council in November, 1855, the residents of the goldfield turned their attention to the question of local government. Messrs. J. F. Sullivan, E. N. Emmett, J. Harney, S. Jones, Captain Bell, Simons, and Haycock composed the first Municipal Council elected on

the 11th January, 1856. Mr. Emmett was the first chairman. A building was purchased for the place of meeting at Charing Cross, alongside the weighbridge. It was composed of weatherboard, and consisted of two rooms, having previously been owned by Mr. G. W. Haycock. The assessment of the township numbered 1532 properties, and showed a total ratable value of £99,021, exclusive of numerous tenements on Crown lands, occupied as dwellings under a miner's right. On the 4th of April a 6d. rate was struck. One of the first works performed by the Council was the filling up of holes in Market Square, and from the first half-yearly statement we learn that the removal of stumps and filling up of holes in the streets, and the making of roads and channels, were the chief works carried out by the Council at this period.

The Municipal cattle yards were opened on the 17th of June, 1861, Mr. A. M. Lloyd being appointed inspector. Many improvements have been effected in recent years at the cattle yards. The abattoirs, constructed according to the latest and most improved design, are very complete in character, and the arrangements at the yards generally have been perfected in a manner in keeping with the importance of Bendigo as the centre of Northern Victoria. Mr. Lloyd has continued to hold the position of inspector since 1861, and has discharged his duties with satisfaction to the Council and citizens. During the year 1890 the following live stock passed through the Bendigo market :— 33,555 cattle, 239,016 sheep, 22,206 pigs, and 1193 horses.

In the absence of any regulations for maintaining the sludge channels—which had been constructed and maintained with £4000 obtained from the Government by the Council—to save the town and low auriferous lands from destruction, the Council were obliged to undertake a constant heavy weekly expenditure in drainage works.

In 1862 Quarry Hill, Ironbark, and Long Gully were annexed to the municipality. On the first October, 1863, the Municipal Amendment Act came into operation, whereby the Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Municipalities were proclaimed boroughs. On that day Mr. M'Intyre, the chairman, took his seat on the bench as the first Mayor of Sandhurst.

The project of the Borough Council to obtain an Act of Incorporation for Sandhurst similar to that which governs the

municipal affairs of Melbourne and Geelong—the Four Towns Bill—was initiated in October, 1864, and appeared likely to be carried out successfully. The strong opposition of the ratepayers, for whom Mr. Richard Andrews was the chief spokesman, led to the Bill being withdrawn at its second reading in Parliament.

The Darling, Sutton, and Barkly Wards were created in 1867, the various councillors selecting the wards they desired to represent.

A proposal by the Council to borrow the sum of £11,000 for public works, and to expend more money on the Town Hall, provoked considerable opposition, and on the 24th September, 1868, there was a very unanimous and enthusiastic meeting at the Town Hall to condemn the proposal. Those who spoke against it were Mr. Richard Andrews, Mr. J. H. Abbott, and Mr. Dickason; and those in its favour, Mr. Emmett and Mr. M'Intyre. The feeling against the loan was accentuated by hundreds of the signatures of the ratepayers being obtained protesting against it.

The *Government Gazette* of Friday, 21st July, 1871, contained the proclamation of Sandhurst as a city, according to the provisions of the Borough Statute. To attain this distinction it was necessary for the Borough revenue for the preceding year to be £20,000. The Councillors at the time were Crs. Boyd (Mayor), Burrowes, and Macdougall for Sutton Ward; Crs. Aspinall, Moran, and Vahland for Barkly Ward; and Crs. Garsed, M'Intyre, and Holmes for Darling Ward.

On the death of Mr. G. A. Fletcher, Town Clerk, in 1876, Mr. D. Macdougall was appointed to the vacancy. The latter held office till his death in August, 1879, when he was succeeded by Mr. W. D. C. Denovan.

In August, 1883, a vote of the ratepayers was taken on the loan for £25,000 proposed by Cr. Joseph for the completion of urgent works in the city. The loan had been agreed to by the Council, and the sanction of the ratepayers was next required. There were 4641 votes on the roll. To stay action one-third of this number was required, viz., 1547. The number of votes recorded against the loan was only 314. The ratepayers were therefore greatly in favour of the loan, and the Council subsequently took the necessary steps to have it floated. Among the works carried out by the loan money may be mentioned the

completion of the Town Hall, which the citizens now so justly regard with pride. The action of the City Council in regard to water supply is dealt with in the next chapter.

The following is a list of the various Chairmen and Mayors who have held office since the establishment of the municipality in 1856. The municipality became a borough in 1863, so that the chairmen became mayors in that year.

Jan. 1856 ...	... E. N. Emmett	Nov. 1873 ...	... G. Aspinall
,, 1857 ...	... J. F. Sullivan	,, 1874 ...	... J. A. Woodward
,, 1858 ...	... W. V. Simons	Aug. 1875 ...	... R. Clark
,, 1859 ..	... W. V. Simons	,, 1876 ...	... H. Hattam
,, 1860 ...	... J. H. Abbott	Dec. 1876 ...	... E. Neill
,, 1861 ...	... J. J. Casey	Aug. 1877 ...	... A. Bayne
Sep. 1861 ...	... R. Strickland	,, 1878 ...	... D. C. Sterry
Jan. 1862 ...	... R. Burrowes	,, 1879 ..	... J. A. Woodward
,, 1863 ...	... J. M'Intyre	,, 1880 ...	... P. Hayes
Oct. 1863 ...	... J. M'Intyre	,, 1881 ...	... W. G. Jackson
Nov. 1864 ...	... J. M'Intyre	,, 1882 ...	... A. Harkness
,, 1865 ...	... J. M'Intyre	,, 1883 ...	... A. Bailes
,, 1866 ...	... J. M'Intyre	,, 1884 ...	... J. Delbridge
,, 1867 . .	... J. M'Intyre	,, 1885 ...	... S. H. M'Gowan
Apr. 1868 ...	... J. Holmes	,, 1886 ...	... P. Hayes
Nov. 1868 ...	... J. Holmes	,, 1887 ...	... T. J. Connelly
,, 1869 ...	... G. Aspinall	,, 1888 ...	... J. Cohn
,, 1870 ...	... J. Boyd	,, 1889 ...	... J. P. Carolin
,, 1871 ...	... D. Macdougall	,, 1890 ...	... J. R. Hoskins
,, 1872 ...	... D. Macdougall	,, 1891 ...	... J. H. Abbott

The following is a list of the various members of the Council since 1856. The first seven comprised the first Council :— E. N. Emmett, 1856 to 1857 ; J. F. Sullivan, 1856 to 1859 ; J. Harney, 1856 to 1858 ; S. Jones, 1856 ; Captain Bell, 1856 to 1857 ; W. V. Simons, 1856 to 1860 ; G. W. Haycock, 1856 ; Harris, 1856 to 1860 ; W. H. Neale, 1856 to 1859 ; M'Dougall, 1857 to 1858 ; Cahill, 1857 to 1860 ; J. H. Abbott, 1858 to 1861, and 1888 to 1891 ; Burnside, 1858 to 1859 ; J. M'Intyre, 1859 to 1860, and 1862 to 1871 ; R. Strickland, 1859 to 1862 ; Carpenter, 1859 ; R. Burrowes, 1860 to 1863, 1865 to 1871, and 1879 to 1881 ; Symonds, 1860 to 1862 ; E. O'Keefe, 1860 to 1867 ; J. Boyd, 1860 to 1862, and 1863 to 1872 ; J. J. Casey, 1860 to 1863 ; Macartney, 1861 to 1863 ; H. Jackson, 1862 to 1865 ; J. Holdsworth, 1862 to 1863, and 1867 to 1869 ; J. Holmes, 1863 to 1881 ; J. Moore, 1863 to 1867 ; Truelove, 1863

to 1865; J. Cohn, 1864 to 1867, and 1887 to 1890; Elliott, 1864 to 1866; Inglis, 1865 to 1867; G. Aspinall, 1866 to 1880; J. Latham, 1867 to 1870; E. Garsed, 1867 to 1873; D. MacDougall, 1867 to 1876; M. Moran, 1869 to 1872; W. C. Vahland, 1870 to 1873; J. Buckley, 1871 to 1879; Allingham, 1871 to 1874; R. Clark, 1872 to 1883; H. Hattam, 1872 to 1876; E. Neill, 1873 to 1878; A. Bayne, 1873 to 1879, and 1879 to 1886; J. A. Woodward, 1874 to 1880; D. C. Sterry, 1876 to 1888; W. D. C. Denovan, 1877 to 1879; P. Hayes, 1878 to 1891; W. G. Jackson, 1879 to 1884; A. Bailes, 1880 to 1891; A. Harkness, 1880 to 1891; A. Joseph, 1881 to 1887; J. Delbridge, 1881 to 1885; S. H. M'Gowan, 1883 to 1887; T. J. Connelly, 1885 to 1888; J. G. Weddell, 1885 to 1888; J. P. Carolin, 1886 to 1891; R. O'Neill, 1887 to 1891; J. R. Hoskins, 1888 to 1891; G. Pallett, 1888 to 1891; P. Ellis, 1890 to 1891; C. Roeder, 1891; D. B. Lazarus, 1891. The present City Councillors are Messrs. Abbott, Bailes, Carolin, Harkness, Hoskins, Roeder, Ellis, O'Neill and Lazarus.

The annual value of ratable property in Bendigo city in 1856 was £90,647. In the year 1874 it amounted to £207,474, but in 1881 had fallen to £164,491, and in 1888 to £162,922. In 1891 the value had risen to £167,023. The rate struck in 1856 was 6d. per £. Since 1860 it has varied from 1s. to 1s. 6d., with occasional special rates of 3d. In 1893, owing to the expiration of the Bath Corner lease, the Council will have the advantage accruing from the possession of that property, equal in point of revenue to a 3d. rate.

Besides the Town Clerk, Mr. Denovan, the principal officers of the Council are Messrs. G. Minto, City Surveyor; W. Honeybone, Receiver of Revenue · O. Hopper, Rate Collector and Valuator; and G. Pownall, Assistant Town Clerk.

The movement for the constitution of Eaglehawk into a separate Municipality took place in 1862. The election of Councillors was held on the 5th September, with the result that Messrs. J. T. Caldwell, J. Hodgson, R. Grieve, Charles Letheby, J. Dowding, James Lester, and James Mouat were returned. On the 9th September Mr. Mouat was elected Chairman of the Municipality. Mr. J. T. Caldwell was Chairman in the following year when it was proclaimed a Borough, and was thus the first Mayor of Eaglehawk.

CENTRAL STATE SCHOOL.

BENDIGO CITY, FROM THE SCHOOL OF MINES, LOOKING SOUTH-WEST.

From negatives kindly sent by Mr. W. H. Robinson.)

The Town Hall was built in 1864 at a cost of £1,600.

Mr. H. E. Tolhurst, Town Clerk of Eaglehawk, accepted the position of City Surveyor in Collingwood at the latter end of 1883, and on the 17th December he was entertained at a banquet at the Town Hall, Eaglehawk, the leading residents of the borough being present. Mr. Tolhurst had been connected with the Borough Council almost from the beginning, and most of the more prominent buildings and works of the borough bore the impress of his skill and knowledge as an architect and building surveyor. He has maintained his prestige in the metropolis. Since Mr. Tolhurst's departure, the position of Town Clerk has been held by Mr. Wood and Mr. Spreull, and at present Mr. W. Cook, formerly a Councillor, discharges the duties of Town Clerk.

The area of Eaglehawk is 3,640 acres; population, 7,195; number of dwellings, 1,750; estimated annual value of ratable property, £31,898; and the revenue, £5,034.

The following are the Chairmen and Mayors of Eaglehawk from the foundation of the municipality to the present time:—

Sept. 1862 ...	... Jas. Mouat	Aug. 1876 ...	... J. Harris
April 1863 ...	... J. T. Caldwell	,, 1877 ...	... H. Kirkwood
Sept. 1863 ...	... J. T. Caldwell	,, 1878 ...	.. H. Trumble
Nov. 1864 ...	... C. Letheby	,, 1879 ...	... G. Willan
,, 1865 ...	... C. Letheby	,, 1880 ...	... J. Mouat
,, 1866 ..	... C. Letheby	,, 1881 ...	... J. J. Hall
,, 1867 ...	... C. Letheby	,, 1882 ...	... W. Kneebone
April 1868 ...	... J. W. Williams	,, 1883 ...	... G. Loudon
Nov. 1868 ...	... J. W. Williams	,, 1884 ...	... J. Green
,, 1869 ...	... J. T. Caldwell	,, 1885 ...	... H. Kirkwood
,, 1870 ...	... J. T. Caldwell	,, 1886 ..	... G. Willan
,, 1871 ...	... H. Trumble	,, 1887 ...	.. E. McCormick
,, 1872 ...	... H. Trumble	,, 1888 ..	.. F. Clark
,, 1873 ...	... H. Kirkwood	,, 1889 ...	... J. Mouat
Aug. 1874 ...	... H. Kirkwood	,, 1890 ..	... W. Kneebone
,, 1875 ...	... H. Kirkwood	,, 1891 ...	... W. James

The following is a list of the various Councillors since 1862. The first seven comprised the first Council:—Caldwell, 1862 to 1865, 1868 to 1871; Hodgson, 1862 to 1866; Grieve, 1862 to 1864; Letheby, 1862 to 1868; Dowding, 1862 to 1863; Lester, 1862 to 1865, 1866 to 1867, 1868 to 1870, and 1876 to 1879; Mouat, 1862 to 1863, 1874 to 1877, 1878 to 1890;

Esler, 1863; Hopkins, 1863 to 1865; Blair, 1863 to 1864; Avery, 1864 to 1867, 1868 to 1873; Thorn, 1864 to 1867; Taylor, 1864 to 1865, 1867 to 1870; McCormick, 1864 to 1868, 1869 to 1873, 1886 to 1889; Simpson, 1865 to 1866; Staley, 1865 to 1868; Cook, 1865 to 1867, 1881 to 1883; J. W. Williams, 1865 to 1866, 1867 to 1876; C. J. Newton, 1866 to 1867, 1868 to 1869; Babbage, 1866; Johnson, 1866 to 1868; Hegarty, 1867 to 1869; Hagger, 1867 to 1872, 1873 to 1874; Bailey, 1867 to 1869; Richards, 1869 to 1878; Trumble, 1869 to 1875, 1876 to 1880; Christian, 1870 to 1871; Clark, 1870 to 1876, 1883 to 1891; Pearson, 1871 to 1874; Thomas, 1871 to 1874; Kirkwood, 1872 to 1891; Barrell, 1873 to 1876; J. Harris, 1874 to 1877; H. R. Williams, 1874 to 1877; Hall, 1875 to 1887; Green, 1876 to 1879, 1883 to 1886, 1887 to 1891; Willan, 1877 to 1890; Kneebone, 1877 to 1891; Fardy, 1877 to 1880; Loudon, 1879 to 1891; O. Harris, 1879 to 1883; Schroeder, 1880 to 1883; Sutton, 1880; James, 1888 to 1891; Leggo, 1889 to 1891; J. Highmore, 1890 to 1891; J. C. M'Kee, 1891. The present Borough Councillors are Messrs. M'Cormick, James, Kirkwood, Green, Kneebone, Loudon, Leggo, Highmore and Dr. M'Kee.

The Marong, Strathfieldsaye and Huntly Councils did not exist in the years preceding 1863, that is, as Councils. They were known as Road Boards in the years 1861, 1862 and 1863. The first meeting in connection with the formation of the Campaspe Road Board, as the Huntly Council was formerly known, was held in November, 1860; but it was not until April, 1861, that the first Board was elected. The District Road Board was proclaimed on the 10th March, 1861. The election was held in April, the first members being Messrs. J. J. Casey (Chairman), J. Dowker, J. Carmody, J. O'Dwyer, H. Hall, F. Fearn and W. Floyd.

In December, 1865, Mr. James Warren was appointed Clerk to the Board *pro tem.*, and in April following he was elected Clerk, Valuer and Rate Collector. He held the position till December, 1881, when he was appointed Town Clerk of Hawthorn. Mr. Warren was an old resident of Bendigo, having arrived in 1853, when quite a young man. He was one of the first members of the Marong Road Board, which afterwards became the Marong Shire Council, and for three

years he was Chairman of the Board. He was esteemed very highly throughout the whole of the Bendigo district. He was succeeded by his brother, Mr. Edward Warren, who was elected on the 22nd December, 1881.

The area of the Huntly Shire is 327 square miles; the estimated population, 3,403; the number of dwellings, 850; and the total annual value of ratable property, £30,201. The rate in the Huntly Shire has been one shilling in the £1 each year, except in the first year of its existence, when it was sixpence only.

The following is a list of the various Presidents of the Huntly Council:—1861, J. J. Casey; 1862, O'Dwyer; 1863, 1864, 1865, 1867 and 1876, Slade; 1866 and 1874, Clay; 1868, Nolan; 1869, Matchett; 1870, E. O'Keefe; 1871, Simpson; 1872, 1876, 1878, 1880 and 1887, Tootell; 1873, 1885 and 1886, A. O'Keefe; 1875, Hellier; 1878, Nicholas; 1879, Cattlin; 1881 and 1888, Henigan; 1882 and 1890, Trewick; 1883, Goyne; 1884, Codey; 1889, Kerr; 1891, M'Connachie.

The first meeting in connection with the Marong District Road Board was held in July, 1861, and the following composed the first Board which was elected subsequently:—Messrs. Jas. Warren (Chairman), W. Tupper, F. Otway, W. Bassett, A. Nichols, J. J. Stammers, W. Gunn, D. Edwards and J. Charlesworth. The Board became a Shire Council in 1864.

The area of the Shire is 560 square miles; the population, 7,347; the number of dwellings, 1,784; and the estimated annual value of ratable property, £62,281.

The following gentlemen have occupied the President's chair:—1861 and 1862, James Warren; 1863 and 1871, Glover; 1864, 1865, 1866 and 1867, Yeo; 1868, Rogers; 1869, T. Moore; 1870, 1874 and 1883, Tupper; 1872 and 1873, Horwood; 1875, Ackerman; 1876, Houliston; 1877 and 1888, Langdon; 1879, Palmer; 1880, Sutherland; 1881 and 1882, Sterry; 1884, Burke; 1885, McLay; 1886, McCartin; 1887, Dellar; 1888, Hart; 1889, Glen; 1890, Illingworth.

The first meeting in connection with the Strathfieldsaye Road District was held in September, 1861. The following were the members in the first year:—Messrs. Teague (Chairman), Harris, Brennan, Black, Payne, Somerville, Campion, Cook, Crawford, Farquharson and Ritchie.

Strathfieldsaye became a Shire in 1866. Mr. Joseph Bell was then Secretary, a position which he held for fourteen years. That position is now held by Mr. M. Brennan, who has for many years discharged his duties to the satisfaction of the Council and ratepayers.

The area of Strathfieldsaye is 229 square miles; its population, 3,328; the number of dwellings, 910; and the estimated annual value of ratable property, £20,511.

The following gentlemen have occupied the President's chair:—1861, Teague; 1862, 1863 and 1864, Cook; 1866, 1867, 1868 and 1869, Sibley; 1870, 1872 and 1873, M. Brennan; 1871, Heine; 1874, Sawers; 1875, Colvin; 1876 and 1885, Patterson; 1877, Rundell; 1878 and 1884, O'Rourke; 1879 and 1887, Craike; 1880, Veitch; 1881, Bruhn; 1882, Schilling; 1883, C. Brennan; 1886, Read; 1888, Young; 1889, Condon; 1890, Burke; 1891, R. H. Abbott.

The Borough of Raywood was proclaimed in 1865. Its area is 5,760 acres, and its population 470; the number of ratepayers on the roll, 167; the annual value of ratable property, £2,190; and the revenue £437. Raywood has a Money-order and Telegraph Office and Savings Bank, and several excellent hotels. There are State-schools at Raywood and Neilborough, and among public buildings are the Congregational, Presbyterian, Roman Catholic, and Wesleyan Churches, the Town Hall, Courthouse, Mechanic's Institute (with a library of 600 volumes). The town is supplied with water from the Coliban, and the district is principally of a mining, pastoral and agricultural character. Mr. J. F. Willoughby has been Town Clerk of Raywood since 1878.

The following is a list of the various Mayors who have held office from the beginning:—1865, E. N. Emmett; 1866, T. Tatchell, 1867, J. P. Nolan; 1868, J. Radcliffe; 1869, J. Radcliffe; 1870, W. McKay; 1871, W. McKay; 1872, W. McKay; 1873, W. McKay; 1874, W. McKay; 1875, T. Draper; 1876, J. P. Teague; 1877, J. Mason; 1878, T. Draper; 1879, W. Sullivan; 1880, J. P. Teague; 1881, A. C. Wilson, who resigned after a few months, and was succeeded by W. Sullivan; 1882, W. Gunn; 1883, T. Draper; 1884, W. Gunn; 1885, R. S. Harvey; 1886, C. McNeill; 1887, A. McKay; 1888, J. P. Bock; 1889, W. Gunn; 1890, C. E. Hyde.

CHAPTER XV.

Water Supply.

"I will open rivers in high places, and fountains in the midst of the valleys; I will make the wilderness a pool of water, and the dry land springs of water."

Isaiah, xli., 18.

1851-91.—Scarcity of Water—Early Water Supply Movements—Mr. E. N. Emmett—Bendigo Waterworks Company—The Coliban Scheme—Mr. J. F. Sullivan's Connection With It—Mr. A. Mackay's Efforts to Complete It—The Crusoe Reservoir—Opposition of the Council to the Coliban Scheme—Mr. Mackay's Efforts Crowned With Success—Completion of the Coliban Scheme, in 1877.

IN the early days of the goldfield it was a very difficult matter to obtain water, and in the summer months very many of the inhabitants were compelled to quit the scene for localities which were more favoured. Not only were the inhabitants without enough water for their ordinary domestic wants, but the operations of the diggers were greatly retarded by reason of the dearth. This state of things continued for a considerable time, and although during the winter there was usually an abundance of the precious element, the summer months were sure to be noted for its scarcity. This was the most serious drawback in connection with the goldfield during its early history. The people, for years, depended upon the water-carts, which brought the water from long distances. This caused high charges, but did not prevent the possibility of the inconvenience which resulted from a scarcity, for the system was a very slender one upon which to rest the expectations of several thousand people. There were tanks, of course, but not a great many, and in parts of the town wells had been placed for the benefit of the public. But it had long been recognised that, without a permanent and plentiful water supply, Bendigo could never hope to become a

great and thriving city, and so, at the earliest stages of their existence, the newspapers made the subject a stock question, and day after day reminded their readers of the urgent necessity for taking the subject in hand.

An effort was made, in 1854, to establish a Water Supply Scheme. This was undertaken by Messrs. G. W. Haycock (one of the first members of the Municipal Council), L. Macpherson, A. M. Lloyd, R. R. Haverfield, T. J. Connelly, and others, who obtained the services of a surveyor, who surveyed the country from the junction of the Coliban and Campaspe Rivers to Bendigo. This met the fate of many other good schemes, and fell through owing to lack of monetary support.

The first real effort was that made by Mr. E. N. Emmett, whose name is familiar as a household word to old Bendigonians. It was on the 16th January, 1855, that a meeting was held at the Criterion Hotel, to decide upon the best means of supplying Bendigo with water. A provisional committee, consisting of the following, was appointed :—Messrs. Panton, Wilkinson, Larrit, Dr. Backhaus, Benson, Emmett, Dowling, Vallentine, Haycock, Burrall, Bernal, Wallach, M'Phail, Dr. O'Brien, Captain Bell, Captain Brown and R. R. Haverfield, secretary. What the result of this Committee's labours were, there is nothing to show, but we find that the question of water supply was taken up with much earnestness in 1857. On the 20th October, in that year, a meeting of the Chamber of Commerce was held, at which a memorial was drawn up for presentation to the Governor, on the subject of water supply for the Bendigo district, for gold-washing and domestic service.

Subsequently Mr. E. N. Emmett devoted very much time and trouble to the subject, and on the 9th April, 1858, a public meeting was held at the Criterion Hotel, Melbourne, for the purpose of hearing a statement by Mr. E. N. Emmett of the arrangements entered into by him with the municipality of Sandhurst, with a view of carrying out the important object of supplying the Bendigo gold district and the township of Sandhurst with water. The proposal was to construct a reservoir at Golden Square, with a storage capacity of 180,000,000 gallons, or a twelve months' supply, at the rate of half-a-million of gallons per day. It was proposed to form a Company, incorporated by Act of Parliament, with a capital of £60,000, in 12,000 shares of £5

each. The meeting resulted in the formation of the Bendigo Waterworks Company, with the following gentlemen as a provisional committee, with power to add to their number:—Mr. Emmett, Mr. W. Clarke, jun., and Mr. Bland.

On the 11th August, the Bendigo Waterworks Company was successfully started. A site of twenty-one acres at Golden Square had been obtained from the Government for the construction of a reservoir which, it was estimated, would store 86,259,000 gallons of water. This was near the present site of Fawns' Brewery. In addition to this, however (according to the *Mining Journal* of December, 1858), as it had been ascertained that this basin contained several mineral springs which would render the water unfit for human consumption, seven other reservoirs were contemplated along the line of the water-shed, with a gross storage of 225,118,000 gallons. In August, 1859, the Waterworks Company had made great progress with their principal reservoir at Golden Square, and at the No. 7 reservoir, near the Big Hill Ranges; but on the 22nd May, 1860, there was a partial suspension of the works of the Company. The Big Hill (No. 7 reservoir) however, was pushed on towards completion, the work at the reservoir at Golden Square being discontinued. The Bendigo Waterworks Company, which promised so much, ceased operations entirely some time afterwards. and the question of a permanent supply of water remained unsolved, no definite steps being taken by the Government to give the district what would be one of the mainsprings of its prosperity. At the next meeting of shareholders, the Company performed an act which amounted to nothing more or less than a repudiation of the claims of the projector, Mr. E. N. Emmett. A motion was carried to the effect that the consideration of his claims be deferred till that day six months. At the beginning of 1861 the two Grassy Flat reservoirs were in course of construction. The sum of £50,000 had been voted by the Government, in the previous year, for water supply to the goldfields, and the amount spent upon these reservoirs represented a fair proportion of the vote. It was expected that the storage water at Grassy Flat would relieve the wants of Epsom and Huntly, but not that they would be of much benefit to the diggings about Bendigo. In June, 1861, the Bendigo Waterworks Company had succeeded in

convincing the people that they intended to bring water into Bendigo from the Big Hill reservoir, the main service pipes being tried in Pall Mall, and throwing a jet of water sufficiently high to supersede the use of engines in those thoroughfares where the pipes were laid on. It was expected that there would shortly be a permanent supply of water. In 1861 a Select Committee was appointed by the Legislative Assembly to consider the feasibility of the Coliban Scheme. The Committee, of which the representatives for Sandhurst—Messrs. Howard and Denovan—were members (the latter being Chairman), brought up a report recommending the Scheme, which the Assembly adopted, and to which the Mining Department undertook to give effect. Mr. J. F. Sullivan, then Minister of Mines, undertook the initiation of this gigantic work, when the Minister of Public Works positively refused to have anything to do with it, on the ground that it would cost five times the amount which was set down in the specifications. But Mr. Sullivan knew that much depended upon the starting of the work, and that when once in progress successive Governments would be certain to carry it out to its completion.

The Coliban Water Scheme excited some attention during February, 1864. A conference of the heads of public bodies of the various districts interested in carrying it out, was held at the Town Hall on the 15th, another conference having been held previously in Castlemaine. Bendigo was represented by the Mayor, Mr. J. M'Intyre (in the chair); Mr. Letheby (Mayor of Eaglehawk), and Mr. Smith, of the Mining Board. Mr. Casey was also present. A lengthy report was brought up and adopted, and a deputation, representing the districts concerned, waited on the Government and stated that the combined revenues would amount to £100,000. A promise was made that the Coliban Scheme would be one of the first undertaken by the Government.

The prolonged dry weather, early in 1865, made water very scarce in Eaglehawk, and it had to be carted from Bendigo for domestic use. The charge, per load, to Sailors' Gully, was eight shillings. The question of water supply became a very serious consideration, and the delay of the Government in connection with the Coliban was strongly condemned. The following committee was appointed to agitate the question until the object sought for was attained :—The members of the Borough Council

and Mining Board, and Messrs. G. Vallentine, T. J. Connelly, A. Bayne, J. T. Saunders, W. D. C. Denovan, A. Mackay, G. A. Fletcher, J. Ryan, J. Hosking, J. Britten, J. Holdsworth, Dr. Wall, H. Koch, R. Strickland, J. Robinson, J. Burnside, J. White, R. Carr, J. Millin, J. Latham, H. M'Coll and M. Leeds. Mr. M'Coll was subsequently appointed Secretary to the Committee. Public meetings were held, and these were followed up by one of the most influential deputations that had ever waited on the Government, to ascertain what its intentions were with regard to the question. The deputation succeeded in obtaining a promise that until the question was settled Parliament should not be prorogued, and further, that if a larger sum than £500,000, which it was intended to raise for water supply, were needed, an application would be made to Parliament.

In July, 1866, several changes occurred in the Ministry, one of them being the resignation by Mr. J. F. Sullivan of the position of Minister of Mines. Mr. Sullivan had carried through Parliament the Coliban Water Scheme, and it was unfortunate that he should have retired from office at a time when his services might have been of most advantage to the Bendigo district in having that scheme pushed on to completion. As it was, the work flagged, and its completion seemed very problematical till the advent to office, four years later, of Mr. Mackay, who was not at this time in Parliament.

There was no scarcity of water at the close of 1866, and no fear of any. However, to ensure the district against future droughts, the Government was going on with the Coliban Scheme and the subsidiary works in connection with it. Amongst these was the Spring Gully reservoir, the formation of which had been pushed forward with commendable alacrity since the letting of the contract. This reservoir was calculated to hold 200,000,000 gallons of water, and was expected to supply the Bendigo Valley, White Hills, Epsom, Pottery Flat, Huntly, and Goornong.

On Mr. Mackay's acceptance of office as Minister of Mines in the M'Culloch Government of 1870, it was expected an earnest effort would be made to complete the scheme, and he was returned to Parliament without opposition. At this time, the question of water supply was quite the question of the day, and both the Sandhurst and Eaglehawk Councils were again bestirring

themselves to urge on the Government the necessity for completing the works. Mr. Mackay was out of office in July, 1871, and the City Council decided on making arrangements for the purchase of the Bendigo Water Works. A Bill was brought into Parliament to enable the Council to borrow money, on debentures guaranteed by the Government, sufficient to purchase the Company's Works—the amount to be paid being about £40,000. The Council expected, by this means, to be able to supply the town with water independent of the Coliban Scheme, which seemed as far off completion as ever. In February, 1872, the City Council, having purchased the Bendigo Water Works, decided to negotiate a loan of £100,000, for the purpose of carrying out the local scheme. The money was to be borrowed for ten years, and the Council offered six per cent. per annum interest, payable half-yearly. Mr. Brady, late engineer-in-chief to the Queensland Government, selected the site at Robinson Crusoe Gully for a new reservoir, the proposed storage capacity of which was as follows :—Capacity for storage, 338,000,000 of gallons; area of water surface, eighty-six acres; area of reserve, 138 acres; greatest length of reservoir, 924 yards; greatest breadth, 880 yards; length of dam, 760 yards; greatest height, forty-eight feet; top width of dam, twelve feet; inner slope, three to one; outer slope, two to one; inner slope to be covered with broken stone; two by-washes, each 100 feet wide; earthwork in dam, 271,000 cubic yards; height of water level above Pall Mall, 240 feet; level of outlet of syphon, 204 feet; length of eighteen-inch main, six miles; intended daily supply, 1,000,000 gallons. In July, the tender of Messrs. Fishbourne and Morton, of Ballarat, was accepted at £20,376 15s. 10d.

The ceremony of inaugurating the works took place on the 17th August, 1872, at the site in Crusoe, in the presence of a goodly company of ladies and gentlemen from Bendigo and the neighbouring country. The ceremony was performed by the Mayoress (Mrs. Macdougall).

After this the City Council took up a position of strong antagonism to the Coliban Scheme, and Mr. Mackay's efforts to ensure its completion were to a great extent nullified by this vexatious action of the City Fathers. He already had to encounter the opposition of a section of the Press, and had to

fight a battle with his colleagues in the Ministry in addition ; and with a man differently constituted, the Council's antagonism might have proved the last straw. The City Council decided, by a majority of five to two, to protest against the completion of the Bendigo section of the Coliban Scheme. In November, public meetings were held throughout the Bendigo district, protesting against this action of the City Council. The result was that the Council backed down from the position it had taken up, the Mayor (Councillor Macdougall), who had been one of the leading spirits in protesting against the completion of the Works, being the proposer of the resolution that the protest be withdrawn.

The Crusoe reservoir was completed on the 24th April, 1873. The embankment, which contains 271,000 cubic yards of earthwork, is larger than the Malmsbury embankment, and nearly as large as that of the Yan Yean, which is the greatest in the colony. The syphon is a clever piece of workmanship—it is taken through the hill, and the pipes are jointed together and built in brickwork. The pipes are eighteen inches in diameter, and, altogether, the column is about 1,600 feet in length, and holds, when full, 6,000 gallons of water. It may be filled or emptied by means of a man-hole, which is fixed at the highest point of the column, where it runs horizontally for a short distance, and the supply of water is regulated by two splendid valves, which are situated at the outer end of the line of pipes, and they are enclosed in a brick building. They are drawn up or lowered by a screw ; to this is attached a wheel, which can be worked with the utmost facility. Messrs. Fishbourne, Morton and Kennedy were the contractors who carried out the reservoir. The total amount of contract for the embankment was £22,000, but this was not half the cost of the whole work. On the 23rd April, the Mayor and most of the members of the Council visited the reservoir to recognise the fact of its completion, and after inspecting the works, accompanied by Mr. Brady, the engineer in charge, the company proceeded to the valve room, and the Mayor, in presence of the Water Committee, opened the two valves—first the fire valve, and then the supply valve—both of which were found to work satisfactorily, the pressure of water being magnificent. It was proposed by the Council to extend the service mains all over Bendigo upon the introduction of water into the city. It was proved that, by actual survey, the reservoir

occupies a sufficient elevation to force the water to the highest point within the boundaries of the city, it being over thirty feet above View Street. Mr. Brady considered the watershed of the Crusoe reservoir one of the best and most extensive in Bendigo, including many square miles of clean, grassy, hilly ranges, comprising the whole of the Bendigo Waterworks' Reserve, extending to the head of Sheepwash, and embracing part of the drainage of the eastern belt of the Mount Alexander Ranges.

The month of July, 1873, saw the close of a long and protracted series of negotiations between the Government and the City Council for the sale of the Bendigo Waterworks' property, and it was generally conceded to be a very satisfactory termination and solution of a difficulty which had been the cause of many controversies. The Council was entitled to this amount of credit and congratulation—that from the time it purchased the Works from the Company, very few complaints had been made of its administration and management of the somewhat extensive affairs of the Works; in addition to this, the Council had displayed considerable energy, to say nothing of enterprise, in inaugurating a local scheme of water supply, in the carrying out of which it succeeded in making substantial progress from the commencement of its possession till the conclusion of the sale. A reservoir—the largest in this part of the country—had been completed at a cost of £25,000. The settling ponds were in an advanced stage towards completion, and they were to cost £12,000. £24,000 worth of cast iron eighteen-inch pipes had been imported from England, and were in course of delivery, and a contract for laying them to Bendigo had been let, while another contract had been let for the supply of service pipes. The negotiations were closed on Saturday, 29th June, 1873. The auditors appointed by the Government showed that the total value of the property, with its improvements and liabilities, was £106,208, and, with £40,000 advanced already to the Council, on account, and the £60,000 worth of debentures issued, and taken over by the Government, there was a sum of £6,208 owing to the Council, which sum was handed over, by cheque, on the 1st July.

When Mr. Mackay joined the Francis Government, in 1872, there was a distinct understanding between him and his colleagues that the Coliban Water Scheme should be carried out in its

integrity, in fact, but for that gentleman's desires in regard to water supply and national education, he would not have become a member of the Cabinet at all.

Prior to Mr. Mackay's acceptance of office, operations in connection with the Coliban had been stopped, in consequence of the failure of several important works, and the want of confidence felt by successive Governments in the engineers. When Mr. Mackay was first in office, he placed on record a memorandum to the effect that the services of a first-class engineer should be obtained. The Ministry of 1870-71 went out before the suggestion could be carried out, but Mr. Mackay's successor, Mr. M'Lellan adopted it, and Mr. Gordon arrived from India in 1872. Up to June, 1872, Mr. Gordon had been employed almost exclusively in the survey and re-survey of the line of channel. The works were then, after twelve months' exposure to all sorts of weather in an unfinished state, in a condition demanding the expenditure of much money and a vast amount of labour, to restore them even to the condition in which they were when they had been temporarily abandoned. The Malmsbury dam had failed—the outlet works leaked—and one of Mr. Gordon's first acts was to put these in a state of thorough repair. He afterwards cleared out and completed the channel to Castlemaine, and by the year 1874 the Department had to construct the channel in the Bendigo district for a distance of only about fifteen miles between Bendigo and Castlemaine. After the local works were taken over by the Government, and before 1874, the Crusoe reservoir and its settling ponds were completed, and the pipes had been laid nearly to Eaglehawk. By the purchase of the Bendigo Waterworks, the Government had been put in a position to complete the scheme, and to carry the Coliban water to the districts outside the city. Mr. Mackay was in office on this occasion for three years (1872 to 1875), and the progress made during that time was very great. The expenditure on the scheme amounted to between £200,000 and £300,000. But few people have a conception of the vastness of the works, the miles of excavation, the bridges, the culverts, the flumes, the cuttings through rock, and the tunnels driven through granite. Of these there are five, most of them taken through hills composed of solid granite. Much money had been wasted on the works in previous years by incompetence and mismanagement.

It is interesting, in view of the complaint that the works do not pay interest on the outlay, to quote from a speech delivered by Mr. Mackay, at the general election of 1874. After referring to the prospect of its early completion, Mr. Mackay said, "Even the Treasurer, Mr. Langton, who had long been sceptical, had been almost brought round to the opinion that the Coliban Water Scheme would be reproductive, and pay interest—not the interest, be it understood, upon the money actually expended and wasted, but interest upon a fair valuation."

We now come to the completion of the Coliban scheme, and the opening of the valves, which allowed the water to flow towards Bendigo and Castlemaine. It was a small party that participated in that event, and Mr. Mackay, then out of office, was the most prominent figure. It was a proud moment to him—and well it might be—when he and Mrs. J. B. Henderson together opened the valve. This was on the 19th November, 1877, and on the 25th of the same month the water was running into the Crusoe Reservoir. Mrs. Henderson was the wife of the engineer under whose supervision the Bendigo section of the channel had been for several years. Mr. Henderson felt that the honour of putting the finishing touch upon this great work, belonged to Mr. Mackay, and his omission to inform the Department and allow Major Smith, the then Minister, to turn the water on, was remembered against him. Two months afterwards he appeared amongst the Black Wednesday victims. But Mr. Henderson was not a loser, for he now holds the position of Chief Hydraulic Engineer to the Queensland Government, in which he has earned honourable distinction. Mr. Henderson was a very old Bendigonian, having arrived in Bendigo in 1851. He worked as a digger on Bendigo Flat, and was one of the first, if not the first, to dig in the famous Back Creek.

In our necessarily brief review of the events which led up to the notable occasion just referred to, we have endeavoured to "give honour where honour is due." We have mentioned the services rendered by various gentlemen in connection with the movement; but it seems to us only right before closing to give the names of those who rendered special aid. Besides Messrs. James Forrester Sullivan and Angus Mackay, who bore the brunt of the battle, we must mention Messrs. R. Burrowes,

J. J. Casey, W. D. C. Denovan, R. F. Howard, R. Strickland, Thompson Moore, Captain Smith, Dr. McAdam, Messrs. Farrell, Smith and Patterson, who, as Members of Parliament and private citizens, did good work, and also Messrs. Saunders, Urquhart, C. Mackenzie, A. Bayne, Colonel Bull, Messrs. R. Andrews, J. McIntyre, Hugh McColl (who acted as Secretary to the movement), L. MacLachlan, G. Vallentine, G. A. Fletcher, Cohn Bros., D. Macdougall, J. Holmes, Bissill, J. H. Abbott, John Stewart, J. Woodward, G. Aspinall, R. Clark, H. Hattam, Jas. Moore, J. E. Wall, W. Gunn, J. Holdsworth, W. Heffernan, J. Crowley, A. Bannerman, W. Shiress, R. Carr, M. Moran, J. Buick, C. Ross, and many others. Mr. Shiress was an analytical chemist who enjoyed a high reputation.

Since 1877, the waters of the Coliban have been placed within reach of the residents of a large district to the north and west of Bendigo, and the service in the city itself has been improved by the laying down of larger mains, which were necessitated by the increased consumption of the water for mining and domestic purposes, and the scarcity of water on the high levels during the summer months. In securing these improvements and extensions, the Members of Parliament for the city and district, and the members of the city, Eaglehawk and Shire Councils have borne an equal share of the work.

CHAPTER XVI.

Journalism.

"The liberty of the Press is the true measure of the liberty of the people."
—*Mercier.*

1853-91.—The First Newspapers—Journalists in the Past—Mr. R. R. Haverfield—Mr. R. Andrews—Mr. G. E. Thomson.

THE first newspaper established in connection with the goldfields was the *Diggers' Advocate*, which was published in Melbourne. Messrs. J. H. Abbott and G. E. Thomson were connected with this journal, first issued in the early part of November, 1853. The first paper printed and published on Bendigo, or, indeed, on any of the goldfields of the colony, was the *Bendigo Advertiser*, the first number of which was issued on the 9th December, 1353, by Messrs. R. R. Haverfield and A. M. Lloyd. The *Advertiser* and the *Advocate* were both diminutive productions at first, but only a few weeks elapsed before they came out in enlarged form. The *Bendigo Times* was started early in 1854, by Messrs. Cook and Sherbon, but neither it nor the *Advocate* had a long career. In May, 1855, the *Advertiser* became the property of Messrs. Mackay, Casey and Henderson, trading as Mackay and Co. Mr. Henderson was not long connected with the firm, and, in 1867, Mr. Casey's share was purchased by Mr. David Stuart. The latter, who was a much respected citizen, died in 1874. The paper is now carried on by the sons of the late Mr. A. Mackay. The *Advertiser* has been published as a daily paper since April, 1856. In this year the *Courier of the Mines* was started by a co-operative company of compositors, but it only lived for a few months. The *Mercury* rose from the ashes of the *Courier*, and lasted till 1860, in which year two other short-lived journals

first appeared, namely, the *Mining Journal* and the *Bee*. In 1861, the *Evening News*, published by Mr. J. M. Harcourt, was first issued, and on the 1st January, 1862, the *Independent*, now published by Mr. J. G. Edwards, first saw the light of day. The *Evening Star*, published in later years, was destined to give light for a brief space of time, and was eventually incorporated with the *News*. In August, 1891, the *News* became the property of Messrs. Cramer, Brennan and Co., and is now issued as the *Evening Exchange*. In the years 1853 and 1854, there were several notable Press writers, who also played no small part in the movement for the enfranchisement of the diggers and the redress of their grievances. In this movement signal service was rendered by Mr. G. E. Thomson, connected with the *Advocate*, Mr. R. R. Haverfield, who edited the *Aavertiser*, Mr. Angus Mackay, the local correspondent of the *Argus*, and Mr. Edmund Harrison, local correspondent of the *Herald*. Mr. Haverfield, at a subsequent stage, edited the *Courier of the Mines*, and when the *Mercury* was established, Mr. Richard Andrews became its editor at the same time that Mr. Haverfield was editing the *Advertiser*. The accommodation provided in those days was not of the best description, and Mr. Andrews and Mr. Haverfield, for weeks together, wrote their articles for the rival papers, in the same room, at the same table, dipping their pens in the same ink bottle. At the time there was a fierce newspaper warfare, and ever and anon, as the two editors, thinking how they should word some extra deadly thrusts, looked up, their eyes met. Mr. Haverfield and Mr. Andrews were often in the street together in the daytime, and people who were surprised to see them so friendly, would, no doubt, have devoted much of their time to thought, had they seen the same two at night, concocting those venomous articles. Mr. Haverfield was frequently absent from Bendigo after this, at one time for many years. The editing of the *Advertiser* was chiefly undertaken by Mr. Mackay, until, in 1868, he entered the political arena. Mr. Edmund Harrison, after severing his connection with the *Herald*, was connected with the *Advertiser*, and, with Mr. J. B. Thompson, did a large share of editorial work. Amongst editors of the *Independent* may be mentioned Mr. J. M. Lynch and Mr. E. Banks, and of the *Evening News*, Mr. W. D. C. Denovan. Amongst hosts of others connected with the Press in the earlier days in other capacities

than that of editorial writing were Mr. S. W. Viney, Mr. John Glen, Mr. Charles M'Kenzie, Mr. Harry Collier, Mr. Richardson Rae, Mr. C. H. Collier (now deceased), and Mr. Robert Mackie (now deceased), who were engaged in literary work. Amongst those engaged in mechanical work were Messrs. Neligan, John Hechle, B. Farjeon (now a celebrated novelist), R. B. Slobom, J. Anderson, Maurice Moran, T. Wilton, Augustus Mackay and T. Hellier, and in the commercial branch of newspaper work were Messrs. W. G. Blackham, E. C. Sanger, J. J. Casey, George Skene, James Henderson, Joseph Henderson, and, later on, Mr. J. Adams. Several of the above-mentioned are still in Bendigo, engaged on the Press, or in business on their own account. The career of Mr. Angus Mackay has been dealt with in our chapter on politics on Bendigo. Three others, whose names we have mentioned in connection with journalism, Mr. Richard Andrews, Mr. G. E. Thomson, and Mr. R. R. Haverfield, died in February, 1887; January, 1889; and April, 1889, respectively.

Mr. Richard Andrews, who reached the ripe old age of seventy-three before he died, was one of the best known of old Bendigonians. He was a digger in the earlier days, subsequently a bank manager, one of the first newspaper editors, and for very many years acted as Secretary to the Gas Company. The Bendigo Bank, with which Mr. Andrews was connected, was established by Dr. Hugh Smith and Mr. E. N. Emmett, and stood near the present site of the Bank of Victoria—it was a weatherboard building, with a floor of clay. The counter was composed of rough pine boards, and the furniture of the building consisted of scales and weights, a small iron safe, a couple of stretchers, and a few other necessaries. Above each of the stretchers was an old gun and a pair of ancient pistols. On the sale of the Bank to the Bank of Victoria, Mr. Andrews went to work again gold digging at the Whipstick. Subsequently he had a varied newspaper experience, being manager and editor of the *Mercury* in 1858. The office of the paper was in Williamson Street, and amongst the shareholders were Messrs. Sullivan, M'Intyre and W. Bannerman. Mr. Andrews' literary attainments were of a very high order, and his writing was forcible and ornate. Before coming to Australia he had filled high positions in the Mercantile Marine service, and was the master of several foreign

languages. He was second to no one in the district in his knowledge of English literature. He took part in various public movements, and conducted the successful opposition to the £11,000 loan proposed by the Council in 1868, with conspicuous ability. He was Secretary to the Bendigo Gas Company from 1858 till shortly before his death. He was the founder of the Old Bendigonians' Society, and suggested its motto, *Aspice, Respice, Prospice.* Mr. Andrews was an author and a poet, and one of his latest efforts were lines to Her Majesty the Queen, on her birthday, 24th May, 1882. Mr. Andrews was in failing health for some time before his death, and nearly all the old vitality which distinguished him in earlier years had left him. During those later years of his life, probably very few but his associates of former days knew him to be the scholar and the gentleman he was, and that, on the 22nd February, 1887, Bendigo lost one of its foremost men, by the death of Richard Andrews.

Mr. George Edward Thomson came to Bendigo in 1853, just before the agitations on the goldfield had reached a height. The movement in 1853 is well described in an article by Mr. Thomson himself, entitled, *Leaves From the Diary of an Old Bendigonian.* Mr. Thomson spoke with authority, for he was the leader of this movement on Bendigo in 1853. He was a fluent and powerful speaker, and possessed the tact and foresight so necessary in a trusted general. We have already had occasion in earlier chapters to refer to Mr. Thomson's connection with the anti-licensing movement, and it is not necessary to enter into details here. Mr. Thomson was absent from Bendigo during the movement for the total abolition of the license tax, which culminated in the Eureka Stockade riots. His name does not figure prominently in subsequent movements, until the land question came into prominence in 1857. In July of that year he and Mr. Benson were appointed the Bendigo delegates to the Land Convention held in Melbourne. Mr. Thomson had always held liberal views on the land question, and some years before he had been successful in his efforts to convert into agricultural lands for the people, the pastoral land monopolised in the squatting interest by Mr. Hector Norman Simpson. After periods of residence in Stawell and Castlemaine, he returned to Bendigo in 1875, and became

a partner of Mr. J. T. Saunders, the solicitor. Upon the death of the latter, he assumed sole control of the business, which he held till his death.

Mr. Robert Ross Haverfield arrived in Sydney in 1838, and subsequently came to Victoria, where he was engaged in bringing mobs of cattle from Jingellac, above Albury, to Melbourne, for the firm of Verner, Welch and Holloway. He did similar work for Mr. Lachlan McKinnon, of Messrs. Wilson and McKinnon, of the *Argus*, and in 1847 went into partnership with Mr. Joseph Jardine, when he became acquainted with Lakes Tyrrell and Hindmarsh, and the Mallee. He did a good deal of exploring work until 1851, when he came to Bendigo. He had seen Bendigo previous to this, however; and in our first chapter we quoted his description of the Bendigo Valley before it was disfigured by the operations of the diggers.

As editor of the *Advertiser*, Mr. Haverfield did much to secure for the digging population the rights and privileges of free men. He fearlessly denounced the official incapacity and tyranny of the early days of the goldfields, which were almost unendurable, but owing to his wise counsels and other influences, there was no outbreak among the diggers of Bendigo. Mr. Haverfield was the first to point out the wealth to be obtained by deep sinking on the reefs, and before his death he had satisfactory proof afforded him that his views were not those of a dreamer, as they were pronounced to be at the time he promulgated them. For some years after Mr. Haverfield established the *Advertiser*, and his first connection with it as editor, he was engaged in a good deal of exploring work. He was the first to cross from Menindie on the Darling to Booligal on the Lachlan, the intervening country being wholly unoccupied and waterless, and also examined for Captain Cadell and Mr. Hugh Jamieson, of Mildura, on the Lower Murray, the Barrier and Grey Ranges. Amongst other adventurous feats of exploration was his journey across from the Barrier Ranges to the far north stations of South Australia. He was acquainted with Burke and Wills, and acted as Secretary to the Royal Commission of inquiry into the causes of their death. From 1870 till his decease, Mr. Haverfield was continuously engaged as editor of the *Advertiser*, discharging his duties with rare ability and constancy. He did a good deal of literary work outside of his ordinary

duties, and wrote several poems and a number of tales and sketches. He contributed to several periodicals at various times, and in 1884 delivered a course of lectures on his early experiences in the colony and on Bendigo.

Mr. Haverfield was held in affectionate esteem by all who knew him. His was a kind and generous nature, and though he had occasionally to hit hard in his editorials, he never used his position to gratify any private grudge. Almost from the earliest days, Mr. Haverfield dealt with all questions affecting the welfare of Bendigo with force and ability. From day to day he made his influence felt in the material growth and social progress of the district. A man who labours thus for much more than a quarter of a century, must leave some record of his work; and the impress of Mr. Haverfield's pen will be found in the history of every local institution, and in every progressive development of the colony itself.

In Eaglehawk the *Leader* was carried on for several years by Messrs. Gillingham Bros., and resuscitated for a brief space by Messrs. Strode and Laidler. Subsequently the *Standard* was issued for a year or two, but is now defunct.

In addition to those who have been specially mentioned in connection with Bendigo journalism, many of the most prominent Melbourne Pressmen graduated on the Bendigo newspaper staffs, and Mr. G. A. Gibbs, Secretary of the Metropolitan Board of Works, was originally a Bendigo newspaper reporter.

The present correspondent of the *Argus* is Mr. C. M. Plues. Prominent as mining reporters for that journal in the past were Mr. D. Moorhead and the late Mr. J. N. Macartney. The latter published a useful book entitled *The Bendigo Goldfields' Register*, and about nine years ago, *Sandhurst As it Was, and As it Is.*

CHAPTER XVII.

Public Institutions, Etc.

"In records that defy the tooth of time."
—*Pope.*

Bendigo Hospital—Benevolent Asylum—Mechanics' Institutes—School of Mines—The Government Offices—Town Hall—Art Gallery.

THE Bendigo Hospital was established in 1853. In May of that year the medical men, who were unequal to the task by themselves, summoned to their aid the clergy and prominent residents. A canvass for subscriptions was organised, and £646 obtained, the greater part of which was contributed by the storekeepers, and only a fifth part by the diggers. In aid of the funds, the Government contributed £500 out of the revenue, and £400 of the sum amassed from fines and fees at the police office. The result of these efforts was that a slab and weatherboard building was erected on a site between Barnard and Mackenzie Streets, and the spot is yet known by old residents as Hospital Hill. The first meeting was held in October, 1853, and the first board of management consisted of the following gentlemen :—Rev. J. Gregory, Rev. Dr. Backhaus, Rev. Mr. Raston, Rev. M. Butler, Rev. Mr. Searle, Mr. L. M'Lachlan, P.M., Dr. M'Crea, Dr. Tierney, Dr. Barnett, Dr. Roche, Dr. Jones, Dr. Smith, Dr. Wall, Mr. Emmett, Mr. Fraser, Mr. Burrall, Mr. Garsed, Mr. Edhouse, Mr. Snowden ; the honorary treasurer, Mr. John Wilkinson, gold commissioner ; R. O'Connor, honorary secretary, and Wollaston, assistant honorary secretary.

After the erection of the building, which cost £1,078 5s., Dr. Edward Hunt was appointed resident medical officer. The Hospital was opened in November, the first patient being

admitted on the 16th. From that date to the 31st December, nineteen were admitted, and, during the following year, 1854, there were 148 cases admitted; during 1855, 130 cases; and during 1856, 170 cases.

In September, 1858, the foundation stone of the new Hospital was laid by Sir John O'Shanassy. It was completed by the close of the year, and in January, 1859, the patients were removed from the old building to the new. The admissions in 1858 were 285; the number discharged, cured, or relieved, 212; deaths, 72; the number remaining at the close being thirty-six. The Bowen wing, named after Lady Bowen, who laid the foundation stone, was erected in 1873. The present resident surgeon of the Hospital is Dr. A. Colquhoun, who has given great satisfaction for several years. Various improvements have been carried out in connection with the institution from year to year, and the grounds are tastefully laid out. Next to the Melbourne Hospital, the institution accommodates a larger number of patients and gives a greater amount of out-door relief than any hospital in the colony, and on this account has a strong claim for more consideration at the hands of the Government than it has received in the past. The institution is also one of the best and most economically managed in the colony. During the year ending on the 30th June, 1891, the number of in-door patients treated was 1,271. Of these, 1,170 were admitted, while 101 remained from the previous year; 105 died. The daily average number of in-patients was 109·2. 1,208 persons were treated as out-door patients on 5,548 occasions. The total sum to the credit of the endowment fund was £7,239, two-thirds of which was donated by Mr. George Lansell. Private contributions during the year amounted to £1,029, and the Government grant to £4,750. The following have been the principal office-bearers of the Hospital since it was founded:—Presidents—Messrs. D. M'Dougall (five times), J. Burnside (twice), J. M'Intyre (three times), J. H. Inglis, D. Macdougall, A. Bayne, J. B. Loridan, D. Stuart, A. Thunder, J. Cooper, P. Hayes (twice), J. H. Abbott (twice), M. Cohn, H. Trumble, J. Buckley, J. Stewart, G. F. Hunter (twice), W. G. Jackson (three times), K. Van Damme (three times), A. Joseph (twice), and J. R. Hoskins. Treasurer—Messrs. J. Wilkinson, W. Bannerman (twelve years), J. Stewart (ten years), R. F. Howard (four years), K. Van

Damme (four years), and S. H. M'Gowan, (six years). Hon. Secretary—Messrs. R. O'Connor, A. Reeve, E. Garsed, A. Langston, J. M'Intyre, C. Caldwell, D. Macdougall, J. W. Townsend, A. Reeve, A. E. Moore, J. A. Woodward, and A. Thunder. Resident Surgeon—Drs. E. Hunt (two years), J. Stuart (three years). J. Barlas, H. L. Atkinson (two years), P. H. MacGillivray (eleven years), E. Hinchcliff (six years), J. H. Poland, and A. Colquhoun (eleven years).

A meeting of the promoters of the Benevolent Asylum was held on the 19th October, 1857. Messrs. Harris, Mackay and MacPherson were elected trustees; Mr. J. F. Sullivan, president; Messrs. J. J. Casey and F. C. Standish, vice-presidents; Mr. Vallentine, treasurer; Mr. J. D. O'Keefe, hon. secretary, and the following gentlemen as a committee of management:—Messrs. Peerman, Mackay, Abbott, N. Harker, W. Bannerman, Gibson, Skinner, Macord, O'Loughlin, Grove, H. Jackson, Ganley, Carpenter, Gunn, Ballerstedt, jun., Strickland, Burnside, Swift, Elliott, Ronald, J. Skene, Symonds, J. W. Dunbar, and Dr. Callan. No start had then been made with the erection of the building, but the Government had made the necessary grant of land, viz., fifteen acres.

The building which now stands on this site has cost, from first to last, over £20,000. It is of the Ionic order of architecture, and contains beds for nearly 200 inmates. The building was inaugurated in March, 1860, the opening speech being delivered by Mr. Sullivan. During the year ending on the 30th June, 1891, the number of persons relieved indoor by the Asylum and Lying-in-Hospital was 387, viz., 285 males, fifty-seven females, twenty-three lying-in patients, and twenty-two infants. At the end of the period there were remaining in the institution 181 males and twenty-nine females; total, 210. The out-door relief granted to the poor of the district amounted to £2,359. The number of distributions to heads of families was 15,312, and the daily average of persons relieved, 345 adults and 155 children. The amount to credit of endowment fund was £12,771. Private contributions during the year amounted to £509, and the Government grant to £4,850. Mr. J. S. M'Ilroy is the superintendent, and Mrs. W. Dorman, matron. The following have been the principal office-bearers of the Asylum since it was founded:—President—Messrs. J. F. Sullivan (five times), M.

Samuel (twice), G. J. Pitman, J. Burnside (three times), G. Aspinall (four times), P. Hayes, A. Bayne, W. Meader, W. Steane (twice), M. O'Brien, J. Quin, W. Hemming, J. Ellison (five times), S. Herman (twice), G. Pallett (twice), E. W. Kirby (three times). Treasurer—Messrs. G. Vallentine (three years), J. Hasker (four years), J. C. M'Causland, J. Souttar, J. N. Jones (four years), A. Williamson (seven years), M. Tolmie (four years), H. N. Stewart, and Dr. James Boyd (ten years). Hon. Secretary —Messrs. D. J. O'Keefe, J. Souttar, J. Boyd, J. Burnside (nine years), and H. Birch (thirteen years). Mr. and Mrs. Dorman were appointed superintendent and matron respectively, in 1858. Mr. Dorman, who died in 1885, was succeeded by Mr. J. S. M'Ilroy, but Mrs. Dorman remained in charge of the female branch of the institution.

In addition to the work performed by the Hospital and Asylum, the Eaglehawk Ladies' Benevolent Society, St. Vincent de Paul's Society, and the Dorcas Society, enquire into and relieve many cases of distress in the district. The management of these Societies is almost exclusively in the hands of ladies, and in their labours they receive the well-merited support of the public.

The Mechanics' Institute was established in June, 1854, the first committee being composed of the following gentlemen, viz. :—Captain Berkeley (president), Messrs. Gibbs, Garnett, Benson, Liddell, Panton, Lysaght, Lynch, Reynell, Burall, Garsed, Frazer, Skinner, Fenton, Walker, Littleton, Dr. Tierney, Dr. Roche, Dr. Allison, Dr. Smith, the Revs. Dr. Backhaus, Raston, Butler, J. H. Gregory (secretary), and Mr. Vallentine (treasurer). The Institute was not opened till the 5th August, 1856, when the inaugural address was delivered by Dr. Owens, M.L.C. In 1862 the Committee undertook a number of improvements. The Institution at this time consisted of about 400 members. Its attractiveness had, a short time previously, been materially strengthened by the very valuable geological collection of the late Dr. Hutchinson, which, together with the handsome gift of a similar description sent from England by Mr. J. A. Panton, and other contributions of natural curiosities, already formed a museum of interest to the student and *savant*. The foundation stone of the new Institute was laid on the 21st July, 1864, in the presence of a large audience. The

ceremony was performed by Mr. F. C. Standish, the highest dignitary in the Brotherhood of Masons in the colony. Many improvements and additions have since been made to the building, the most recent of which is the new library, octagon-shaped, all of which have tended to make the Institute not only one of the finest buildings in the district, but one of the best institutions of its kind in the colonies. The library contains 15,000 volumes, and in the reading-rooms may be found a splendid assortment of colonial and foreign newspapers and periodicals. Mr. Sanger is the present secretary. The following gentlemen have occupied the President's chair in connection with the Mechanics' Institute :—Captain Berkeley, Messrs. J. F. Sullivan (twice), A. Reeve, J. H. O'Loughlin (twice), E. Garsed (three times), G. Vallentine, Dr. Atkinson, Messrs. J. Burnside, A. Mackay, D. Macdougall, A. Bayne (four times), A. E. Moore, C. Ross (twice), R. Clark, P. Hayes, J. T. Moffitt, I. E. Dyason, J. Anderson, J. Hosking, E. Hinchcliff, G. Young, T. J. Connelly, D. G. Coope, C. Cohen, J. G. Oliphant, Dr. H. Boyd, Messrs. T. Scott, J. B. Young, Rev. J. Garlick. Mr. Marshall was the first Secretary, his various successors being Messrs. Grimley, Phillips, Smyth, Coburn, D. T. Rogers, and Sanger. Mr. R. Whiteside is the present Treasurer.

On the 18th May, 1868, a public meeting was held at the Town Hall, Eaglehawk, for the purpose of taking steps to establish a Free Public Library in the Borough. The meeting was presided over by the Mayor (Mr. J. W. Williams), and the following committee was formed to take the initiatory steps :—Messrs. Hornbuckle, Cook, Lester, Caldwell, Eyre, J. Hay, W. Murdock, Dogherty and Froggatt, with Mr. Ellis as honorary secretary. The Library now contains 2000 volumes. Besides this Institute and the Sandhurst Mechanics', there are also the Long Gully Mechanics', the Golden Square Working Men's Club, the California Gully Mechanics' Institute (opened in 1883), and the Temperance Free Library.

The movement for the establishment of a School of Mines on Bendigo was originated in 1871 by the Committee of the Mechanics' Institute, on the motion of Mr. Joseph Anderson, the vice-president. On the 8th March, 1871, the president of the Mechanics' Institute, Mr. Charles Ross, and Messrs. Burrowes, Kennedy, Steane, Garsed, Craig and Blanch were appointed a

sub-committee, to consider and report on the best way of establishing the School, and, on the 18th December, the tender of Mr. George Adams, for alterations and additions to the building, including those portions of the Institute since used by the School, was accepted, the amount being £1,275. During the time that these preparations were being made, a School of Design had been established, and subsequently incorporated with the School of Mines. On the 6th May, 1872, a scheme of management for the proposed School of Mines, which was the basis of the present constitution, was drawn up and adopted, and, on 3rd June, it was approved of by the Government, and a grant of £500 forwarded. On the same date the Committee of the Mechanics' Institute decided that the specimens belonging to the Institute should be transferred to the room intended for the School of Mines museum. The first meeting of the General Council was held on the 11th December, 1872, when the first Administrative Council was elected. The members chosen were :—President, Mr. A. Mackay; vice-president, His Honor Judge Dunne; treasurer, Mr. A. Bayne; members of Council, Dr. MacGillivray, and Messrs. J. M'Intyre, S. G. Cole, C. Ross, J. A. Woodward and G. R. B. Steane. The School was opened on the 21st April, 1873. During the next three years, the School continued to make steady progress, additional teachers being appointed from time to time. Laboratories were built and fitted with appliances, and, although the period was one of great depression in mining generally, and particularly on Bendigo, the work went steadily on, and the usefulness of the School was appreciated. Since Mr. Mica Smith, who was the first lecturer on metallurgy and assaying, and registrar, the following gentlemen have been Directors of the School, viz. :—Messrs. Pitman, Brough Smyth and J. B. L. Mackay. Since Mr. Mackay's appointment, Mr. D. Moorhead has been registrar, and at the beginning of the present year, 1891, the directorship was abolished, and Mr. Mackay appointed as lecturer. The teaching staff for the year 1891 is as follows :—Lecturer on geology, mineralogy, botany and zoology, Mr. J. B. L. Mackay; lecturer on chemistry and metallurgy, Mr. A. Hamann; mathematics, mechanics, surveying, and mine management, vacant; mechanical and architectural drawing, practical geometry, machine and building construction, Mr. W. H. E. Nicolai, C.E.; general drawing, painting and design, Mr.

H. Fegan; model drawing from life, Mr. C. G. Darvall; metal working, carpentry and turning, Mr. E. Moore; French, German and Latin, Mr. J. A. Markert; telegraphy, Mr. G. H. Matear; shorthand, Mr. M. J. Moran; elocution, Mr. J. E. Lupton. Some seven or eight years ago new class-rooms were erected, and in 1890 it was found necessary to make further additions. The new premises, which adjoin the Mechanics' Institute, are surmounted by a tower, and include a splendid lecture hall, in addition to several class-rooms. In 1889, 761 pupils were attending the School, and of that number 311 received instruction in scientific mining; 308 in art subjects; thirty-one in industrial subjects: and 111 in extra subjects, making a total of 761, as against 628 in 1888. Of the first Administrative Council, Dr. McGillivray and Mr. A. Bayne are still active members, both having occupied the President's chair in several consecutive years. In addition to others already mentioned, Mr. Robert Carr, who has always been prominently identified with the mining industry, Messrs. R. Williams, C. Roeder, John Robshaw, J. H. Abbott, R. Jackson, C. Cohen, W. C. Vahland, J. Cohn, J. Delbridge, R. J. Liddell, the Rev. J. Garlick, and Drs. Quick, H. Boyd, and O. Penfold have taken a warm interest in the institution.

The foundation stone of the Public Buildings was laid in 1883 by Sir Henry Loch, who, in his speech on the occasion, said it was a curious coincidence that about thirty years ago he was standing on the very same ground on which he was laying the memorial stone, when he was the guest of Mr. Wright, gold commissioner. Great changes had taken place since that day, when that ground, now known as Rosalind Park, was known as the camp enclosure of old Bendigo.

The Public Buildings, which include the Post and Telegraph and other Government Offices, were opened in 1887, having occupied some five years in erection. The building has a frontage of 155 feet to Pall Mall, and a depth of 100 feet, and the tower is 142 feet high. The offices are described as the handsomest and most complete in the colony; the clock is furnished with Winchester chimes. The building cost £50,000, and a commencement has been made with the erection of Law Courts adjoining, which will be after the same design as the Public Offices.

POST AND PUBLIC OFFICES.

(From a negative kindly lent by Mr. S. T. King.)

The Town Hall has been referred to in our chapter on Municipal Government. It is a very fine building; the general design is in the style of the Italian Renaissance, and three of the corners are surmounted by towers—one 120 feet high. The large hall is very tastefully decorated. The entire cost of the Town Hall has been £30,000.

The most recent addition to our Public Institutions is the Fine Art Gallery, opened by Lord Hopetoun in October, 1890. The building contains a truly magnificent collection of paintings, by British and Colonial artists. The principal of these are, "Too Late," the "Horse Fair," "Ulysses and Diomed capturing the horses of Rhesus, King of Thrace," "The Last Watch," and "Forgiven." The last-named was presented by Mr. W. I. Winter-Irving, who has also been the generous donor of a piece of Italian statuary and other fine works of art. Among other gentlemen who have taken a warm interest in the establishment of the Gallery may be mentioned Mr. Jacob Cohn, Mr. J. W. Rymer, Mr. W. Davis, Mr. E. W. Kirby, and the late Mr. W. Rae. In addition to the aid of numerous citizens, the Government has assisted the Institution by handsome grants. In January, 1891, the Gallery contained 112 oil-paintings.

CHAPTER XVIII.

PUBLIC INSTITUTIONS, ETC.—*(Continued.)*

"To be truly and really independent, is to support ourselves by our own exertions.
—*Porter.*

Agricultural Society—Gas Company—Scholastic—Fire Brigades—Masonic and other Halls — Banks — The Medical and Legal Professions — Judges, Magistrates, Clerks and Coroners—The Miners' Association, Australian Natives', and Friendly Societies Generally—Building Societies —The Volunteers, Cavalry, and Militia.

ON the 15th February, 1859, a preliminary meeting was held for the formation of the Bendigo Agricultural and Horticultural Society, and in April the first annual general meeting of the Society took place at the Shamrock Hotel, Mr. J. F. Sullivan being in the chair. The following Office-bearers were elected :—President, Dr. Rowe; Vice-presidents, Messrs. Ganley and Mouat; Treasurer, Mr. Harney; Secretary, Mr. Townsend; Committee, Messrs. Kerr, Sullivan, Campbell, Rayment, Gay, Hocking, Bladier, Coghill, Carr, Smith, Burne, Mathieson, McIntyre, J. Williams, Kilgour, Warren, Heffernan, Jackson, Deehan, Holmes, Masden, Sorley, Robins, and Matthews. The first Agricultural and Horticultural Exhibition under the auspices of the local Society was held on the 19th March, 1863, in a temporary building erected in the Reserve. Since then, annual shows have been held by the Society, and the best evidence of the progress it has made is to be found in the fact that the shows of late years have been the most successful, from every point of view, held under its auspices. Much of the success of the Society is due to the interest taken in it by the indefatigable Secretary, Mr. H. M. Marks. The Show

Grounds have been greatly improved of late years, and not only contain excellent facilities for the exhibition of produce and live stock, but also for trials of hunters, and other equestrian exercises. There is also a Bendigo Vine and Fruit Growers' Association, and an Eaglehawk Horticultural Society. Though as yet practically in its infancy, the latter promises to become a very popular organization.

The Bendigo Gas Company was established in July, 1859, the following gentlemen being the first Directors :—Messrs. J. F. Sullivan, H. Jackson, J. J. Casey, N. Harker, R. Burrowes and G. Brodie. On the 31st March, 1860, the first supply of gas was tested at the mains at View Point, High Street and Hargreaves Street, the light being described as of great brilliancy, and in April the leading business establishments were lighted by gas for the first time. The supply was produced by means of six retorts and one small holder. The coal had to be carted all the way from Melbourne, and the price of gas was consequently very high—forty-five shillings per 1000 cubic feet. The first year's consumption amounted to only 2,500,000 cubic feet. In 1863 the price was reduced to thirty-five shillings, and in 1864 to thirty shillings. In 1866 the Company extended its mains to Long Gully, California Gully and Eaglehawk. Further reductions in price were made in 1867, 1870, 1873 and 1877, the price in the last-mentioned year being twelve shillings and sixpence. In 1888 the price was reduced to eight shillings and fourpence. The consumption of gas during the year 1890 amounted to 38,500,000 cubic feet. The working plant has been kept fairly abreast of the times, the Directors taking advantage of the various improvements in the manufacture and purification of gas perfected by various gas engineers. Over forty miles of gas mains have been laid ; 2,000 meters are in use ; and there are four large holders. The Gas Company has been a profitable concern, and for a long series of years has paid dividends regularly to the shareholders, ranging in late years from 12 per cent. to 18 per cent. The shares were quoted at £10 2s. 6d. previous to the payment of the last dividend.

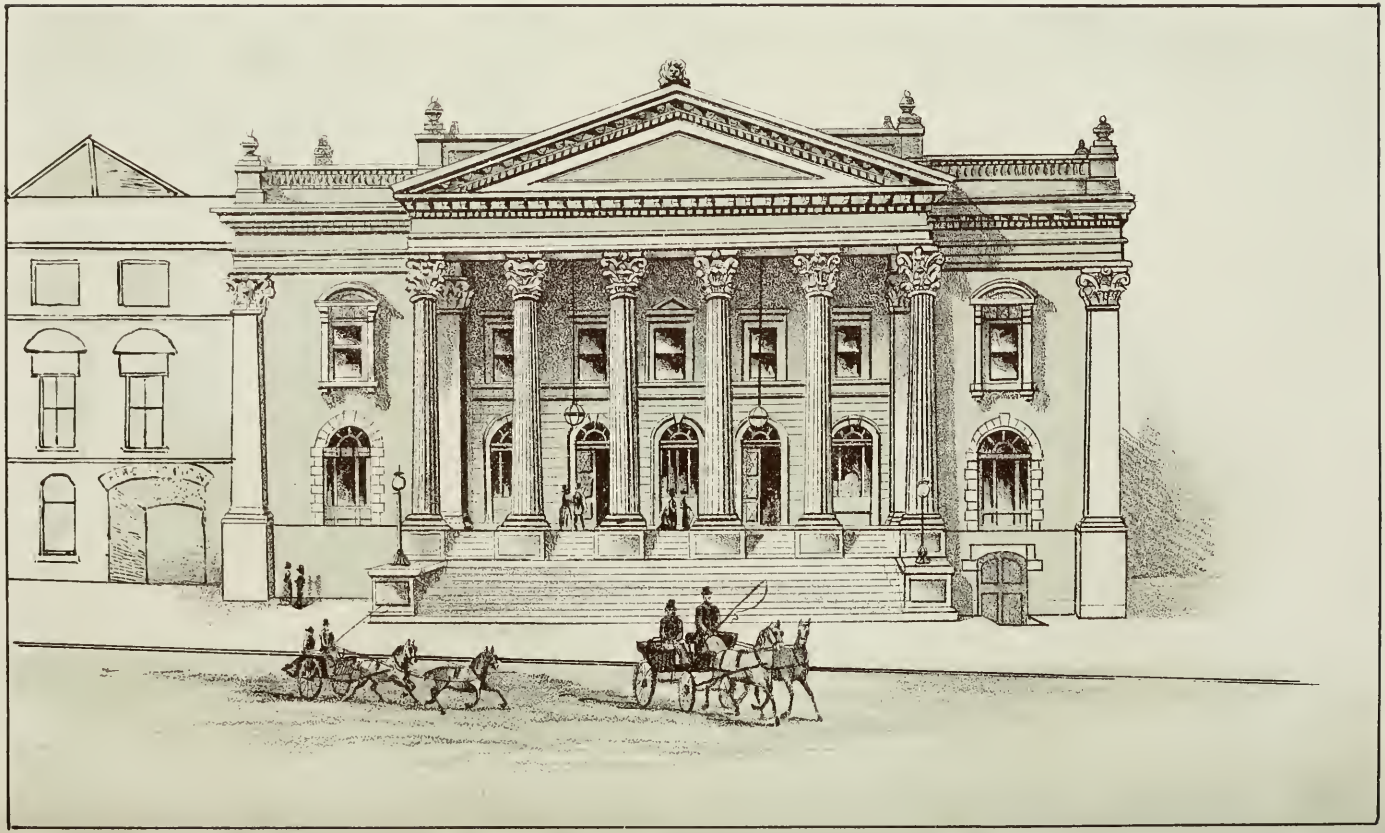
The Corporate High School was opened on the 18th January, 1870. It was established under the auspices of the Borough Council. The headmaster was Mr. John S. Moir, M.A., who

had been the Vice-principal of the Scotch College. On the death of Mr. Moir in 1876, Mr. John Slack became headmaster. He was succeeded over five years ago by Mr. J. G. Oliphant, the present principal, under whose management the school has maintained a good reputation. Among other educational institutions in the district, besides the various State-schools, are St. Andrew's College (Mr. G. H. Freeman, head teacher); Sandhurst Grammar School (Mr. A. J. Pearce); Girton College, (Mrs. Aherne); St. Kilian's Catholic School; St. Aloysius' Convent School; the Kindergarten; Preparatory Grammar School; and several others. There are ten State-schools in the Bendigo district, the principal being that in Rosalind Park, which is a training school under the control of Mr. A. Cook. The other schools in the district are under the control of the following head teachers:—Messrs. J. Rogers, J. J. Burston, B. J. Burston, W. H. Powell, P. Robin, Webb, Henry, M. G. O'Brien and Reddin. The total number of pupils on the roll for these ten schools is 7,113, and the average attendance 3,899. At the twenty-one private schools there are 1,571 pupils. The Bendigo Board of Advice consists of Messrs. J. Delbridge (Chairman), R. J. Liddell, C. Houston, F. Boffey, W. Bradshaw, C. Perry and J. Hemming (correspondent). At the three State-schools in Eaglehawk there are 1,990 pupils on the rolls, and the average attendance is 1,308. 285 pupils attend private schools. In the surrounding districts there are something like forty schools, the principal being that at Kangaroo Flat.

On the 25th April, 1855, the Sandhurst Fire Brigade, the first brigade on Bendigo, was established, the offices being held as follows:—Manager, Mr. J. F. Sullivan; Treasurer, Mr. Wolfe; Trustees, Messrs. Dunn and Lewis; Secretary, Mr. O'Keefe; Committee, Messrs. Duncan, Jackson, Boone, Jacobs and R. Burrowes. This brigade was afterwards called the No. 1.

The City Fire Brigade was established in full working order on the 18th November, 1872. It then numbered forty working members, and the officers were Mr. T. J. Connelly, Superintendent; Mr. Alex. Mackay, Captain; and Mr. Payne, Lieutenant.

The Temperance Fire Brigade was formed of members belonging to the temperance societies. The brigade numbered thirty-eight members, officered as follows:—Mr. George Adams, Superintendent; Mr. Peter Finn, Captain; Mr. Jas. Quin,



MASONIC HALL.

Lieutenant; Mr. W. G. Blackham, Hon. Secretary; and Mr. W. McMeikan, Hon. Treasurer.

Other brigades are the Golden Square, Long Gully and Eaglehawk, while there are several contingents of the above in suburban localities. The Fire Brigades of the district are under the control of the Country Fire Board.

The foundation-stone of the old Masonic Hall, in Myers Street, was laid in January, 1856, by Bro. J. C. Duncan. The Golden Lodge had been established in September, 1854. The foundation of the present hall was laid in June, 1873, by Bro. J. McIntyre, P.M. The hall, which cost £12,000, was opened in October following. It is of the Corinthian order of architecture, has a frontage of 100 feet, with six pillars thirty-eight feet high, supporting the entablature and pediment, the whole producing a noble effect. It is prettily decorated in the interior, and the large hall has been very popular as a place for entertainments. Latterly, a stage, with all the accessories of a well-appointed theatre, has been added. The Masonic order is well represented in Bendigo, there being three lodges: the Golden and Corinthian, Zenith, and Eaglehawk. Other halls are the Oddfellows', Temperance, St. Kilians' and St. James'.

The banks in Bendigo are the Victoria, New South Wales, Australasia, Colonial, National, Commercial, Union, London Chartered, and Savings. Those in Eaglehawk are the Victoria, New South Wales, and Savings. On the 30th June, 1891, there were at the Bendigo office of the Savings Bank, 11,946 depositors, with £256,803 at their credit, and at the Eaglehawk branch, there were 1,853 depositors with £34,075 at their credit. The banks are all handsome and substantial structures.

Of the various bank managers who have held office in Bendigo from time to time, those most identified with the district are Messrs. Vallentine, Bannerman, A. and D. Williamson, Meudell, Stirling, Tolmie, Davis, T. Ellison, Howard, Reade, Fairclough, Reid, Hemphill, Gibson and Bailey. Reference has already been made to the old Bendigo Bank, which was purchased by the Bank of Victoria in 1854. Mr. Vallentine was the manager of the latter, and associated with him were Messrs. J. F. Skinner, H. Smith, W. Meudell, and A. Williamson, the latter being gold buyer.

The medical profession has always been well represented in Bendigo. Amongst those of former years may be mentioned

Doctors Barnett, Allison, McCrea, Betham, Caudle, Cruikshank, Hoyle, Hunt, Hutchinson, Maschin, Owens, Pounds, Roche, H. Smith, Stuart, Stillwell, Tierney, Baumgartner, Tattersall and Maciver. In the present day we have Doctors Atkinson, J. Boyd, H. Boyd, J. D. Boyd, J. Eadie, sen., J. Eadie, jun., J. M. Eadie (Health Officer), Gaffney, Hinchcliff, MacGillivray, McKee, Thom, Penfold and Colquhoun, while the Chinese are represented by Mr. J. Lamsey.

Of the members of the legal profession connected with Bendigo from time to time in the past may be mentioned Messrs. Lysaght, J. A. C. Helm, O'Loughlin, J. J. Casey, Hornbuckle, Martley, R. Strickland, barristers; and Messrs. W. Brown, J. M. Minter, J. P. Motteram, Cutten, McCormick, Rymer, J. Ellison, G. E. Thomson, H. Wrixon, J. E. McIntyre and Hobday, solicitors.

The bar is represented now by Dr. Quick and Mr. J. B. Roberts, and the other branch of the profession by Messrs. Connelly, Tatchell, Cohen, Crabbe, Kirby, Jones, Macoboy, Kennedy, Rymer, G. Watson and Hyett. In this connection it may be mentioned that Judge Macoboy, who died in 1872, and Judge Dunne, who died in 1877, were judges of the County Court for the district. Amongst Clerks of Courts there have been Messrs. Saunders, Maynard and Collins; and among Assistant Clerks, Messrs. Greene, A. Daly, McAnulty and Dixon. Mr. F. R. Ellis occupied the position of Clerk of Petty Sessions for Eaglehawk, Raywood and Huntly for a great number of years. After Mr. Lachlan McLachlan, as Police Magistrate, have succeeded in order, Messrs. Cogdon, Webster, Campbell, Strickland, Wyatt, Nicholson and Patterson; and previous to the coronial duties being entrusted to the magistrates, the coroners for the district were successively Dr. Roche, Dr. Pounds, and Mr. Strickland, who each held office for many years. Mr. Strickland was extremely popular. He was always very fond of a joke, even in the presence of the usually restraining influence of judicial surroundings. It is related of him that once, when he was engaged in copying out the verdict of a jury at an inquest, the question of paying jurors cropped up. It was just after the election in July, 1880, and one juror, after mentioning that Mr. McIntyre had promised to bring the question before Parliament, expressed the opinion that they had acted unwisely in rejecting McIntyre for an inexperienced man like Quick.

Silence!" said Mr. Strickland, "we are here to deal with the *dead*, not the *Quick*." "Then *Berry* them," was the ejaculation of the juror; and as Mr. Strickland bent more intently over his notes, he was heard to remark, *sotto voce*, "That man will be of *Service* to his country yet." The present Police Superintendent is Mr. J. W. Ryall. His predecessor was Mr. H. S. Palmer, now of Ballarat.

The Bendigo Miners' Association was established in 1874, but did not display much activity till 1879, when, under the presidency of Mr. R. Clark, M.P., it aided in resisting the attempt to reduce the miners' wages. In 1882 it was reconstituted as a branch of the A.M.A. of Australasia. The Association now contains over 2,000 members, and possesses between £3,000 and £4,000 in funds. The following gentlemen have occupied the President's chair:—May, 1882, Mr. J. Sneddon; February, 1883, Mr. J. Sneddon; February, 1884, Mr. H. G. Williams; February, 1885, Mr. P. S. Williams; February, 1886, Mr. J. P. Dunstan; February, 1887, Mr. J. McKenzie; February, 1888, Mr. J. McKenzie; February, 1889, Mr. G. Cocking; February, 1890, Mr. D. Fleming; February, 1891, Mr. J. Sheppard.

In 1890 Mr. J. B. Watson, son of the late millionaire, made the liberal offer of £150 per annum for ten years to the Miners' Association, for the establishment of a Benevolent Fund, on condition that the Association raised a similar amount. This generous proposal was taken up heartily by the Association.

As considerable interest is taken in the A.N.A., we may mention that the position of President has been occupied by the following gentlemen:—Elected in 1874, J. P. Woods; 1875, M. J. Cahill; 1876, M. J. Cahill; 1877, M. Wright, and E. W. Smith; 1878, M. J. Cahill, and J. P. Carolin; 1879, J. P. Carolin, and H. Summers; 1880, M. J. Cahill; 1881, M. J. Cahill, J. P. Carolin, and J. Donnelly; 1882, W. H. Bradley; 1884, G. G. McColl, and M. J. Cahill; 1885, J. Stevens, and T. J. Connelly; 1886, T. J. Connelly, and J. B. Young; 1887, J. B. Young, and W. Beebe; 1888, W. Beebe, and J. B. Young; 1889, W. F. Noonan, and J. E. Buchan; 1890, J. E. Buchan, and J. B. Roberts; 1891, J. B. Roberts.

It is hardly necessary to deal with the history of the various Friendly Societies in the district. The following official records will give an idea of the position held by each of them. Although

not up to date, the figures are the most recent obtainable for purposes of comparison :—

LOCAL FRIENDLY SOCIETIES.

Society and Branch.	Where Situated.	Established.	Total Funds.	No. of Memb's end of 1889.
			£	
G.U.O.O.F.—				
Star of Eaglehawk	Eaglehawk ...	1866	590	195
Sandhurst	City	1868	397	98
Pride of Bendigo	City	1871	377	69
U.A.O. Druids—				
Quartzopolis	City	1872	683	204
Caractacus	Eaglehawk ...	1873	71	51
Ancient Order Foresters—				
Queen of Forest	City	1861	1478	163
Pride of Forest	Golden Square	1861	498	137
Happy Valley	Eaglehawk ...	1861	1011	169
Bendigo	City	1861	2710	182
Banner of Hope	Kangaroo Flat	1862	359	36
Sherwood	Huntly ...	1862	116	41
King of the Forest	Long Gully ...	1862	1082	148
Alexandra	City	1862	83	37
Victoria	California Gully	1863	836	143
Pride of Marong	Marong ...	1871	319	15
Independent Order Oddfellows—				
Sandhurst	City	1871	547	222
Independent Order Rechabites—				
Star of Bendigo	City	1861	7881	251
Refuge	Eaglehawk ...	1863	452	93
Cobden	California Gully	1865	277	118
Olive Branch	Kangaroo Flat	1865	371	81
Laurel	City	1870	426	149
Sutton	Long Gully ..	1871	185	64
Sons of Temperance—				
Royal Diadem	City	1868	471	45
Hope of Sandhurst	City	1870	246	168
Princess Beatrice	Eaglehawk ...	1885	36	26
Lady Loch	Golden Square	1885	41	34
St. Andrew (S.C.)—				
Bendigo	City	1870	935	94
H.A.C.B. Society—				
St. Kilian's	City	1868	1472	242
M.U.I.O.O.F.—				
Bendigo	City	1854	3472	333
Gold Miners' Pride	Golden Square	1854	136	166
James Roe	City	1856	987	273
Strangers' Refuge	Kangaroo Flat	1856	850	102
Heart of Friendship	City	1859	2626	312
Albert	Long Gully ...	1859	1731	366
Sir Henry Barkly	Huntly ...	1861	910	86
Catherine	Eaglehawk ...	1862	3928	399
Darling	California Gully	1865	255	162
Australian Natives' Association—				
Sandhurst	City	1874	2343	624
Neangar	Eaglehawk ...	1885	617	176

The Bendigo United Friendly Societies' Medical Institute and Dispensary was established in 1872, and the average number of members connected with it in 1891 was 2,708. The Society possesses a splendid building, and its finances are in a flourishing condition. Mr. N. Johns is the President, which position has been filled in previous years by Messrs. J. S. Black, W. Leggett, E. Holton, H. G. Williams, S. H. McGowan, S. Herman, J. Anderson, T. O'Callaghan, G. H. Hobson, R. G. Johnston, F. G. Buckell, and C. Houston. The present Secretary is Mr. T. Pook, who has occupied that position since 1884, and much of the Society's success is due to his efforts. His predecessors were Messrs. J. A. Niemann, W. B. Chamney, J. Watson, and S. H. McGowan. The medical officers are Drs. James and John M. Eadie ; and the dispenser and assistant, Mr. R. S. Sargeant and Mr. C. Campbell.

There are in Bendigo three Building Societies, viz. :— Bendigo Mutual Permanent, established 1865, Mr. R. W. Brown, Secretary ; Commercial Permanent, Mr. W. J. Creeth, Secretary ; and Sandhurst Mutual Permanent, Mr. H. Y. North, Manager. The Trustees and Executors' Agency Company, of which Mr. W. Davis is Chairman, and Mr. J. Neeson, Manager, was only established recently, but is growing greatly in public favour.

In connection with public buildings on Bendigo, it should be mentioned that the firm of Messrs. Vahland and Getschmann, of which Mr. W. C. Vahland is the surviving partner, has performed the architectural work for the most of them. As instances, the new Town Hall, the Hospital, additions to the Asylum, the Forest Street Wesleyan Church, the Congregational Church, the Royal Princess' Theatre, and the Masonic Hall may be enumerated. Other architects in the past were Mr. Love, who designed the Asylum, and St. Paul's Church ; Mr. Fletcher, who designed the original Town Hall ; Messrs. H. E. Tolhurst, A. L. Smith, Burgoyne, Duncan, Brady, and Turnbull. In addition to Mr. Vahland, in the present day are Messrs. J. Bain, Beebe and Son, and Mauermann. As builders in the past, the most prominent were Messrs. G. Pallett, senior, and junior ; Adams, Cowper, Murphy, Albert, Hassell, Berchill, T. Saunders, Hyett, M'Lean, and Coombs Bros. ; while in the present day there are Messrs. N. Longstaff, T. Pattinson, Z. Button, G. H. Button, B. Button,

J. F. Pinnell, D. H. Bosselmann, G. Sweeney, W. Johns, W. H. Johns, Reeves and Sons, T. Dunton, H. Vallence, A. Kennedy, T. Singleton, C. Millward and Son, Galbraith, I. Taylor, and Jenkins. Messrs. Adams and Pallett built the original Town Hall, the Railway Station, and many business establishments; and Mr. G. Pallett, junior, was the contractor for the construction of the greater part of Lake Weeroona. Mr. J. Cowper built the Bowen Wing of the Hospital, the Corn Exchange, the Wesleyan Church, Forest Street, the Masonic Hall, the Theatre, and Charing Cross bridge. Mr. Z. Button built the latest additions to the Town Hall, and the additions to the Asylum. Mr. Bosselmann and Mr. Sweeney built the School of Mines, and Mr. Bosselmann built St. Kilian's Hall. The Charing Cross Fountain was built by Mr. T. Saunders, Mr. P. Finn doing the polishing work.

The first auctioneers on Bendigo were Messrs. L. MacPherson and Co., Brocklebank and Co, Neale and Emmett, Pritchard and Co., S. Jones and Co., J. Jamieson, Maughan, and Barclay. Mr. MacPherson died in 1867, but his name still lives in MacPherson, Sternberg and Co. There are also in the present day, Messrs. O'Neill and Co., Marks and Co., Andrew and Co., J. J. Hayes and Co., Watson and Co., Hobson and Co., Walker and Co., Buscombe, Moore and Co., Dyer and Co., Putnam and Jackson, Grattan and Stamp, Bentley, and Barlow.

University degrees have been secured by several Bendigo boys, and one Bendigo girl. Mr. Justice Hodges, Dr. Quick, Dr. M'Inerny, Mr. A. G. M'Intyre, Mr. J. S. Meagher, and Mr. J. B. Roberts may be mentioned as barristers; Drs. J. Eadie, J. W. Florance, G. T. Howard, W. R. Boyd, H. A. Deravin, J. H. J. Crowley, T. H. Boyd, H. Friedman, R. W. Lewers, R. G. Vickery, J. F. Bartley (all of the Melbourne University), J. D. Boyd, J. M. Eadie, S. Brierly, A. Lazarus, T. R. Harney, A. W. Powell, and Van Damme, as medicos; while Miss Annie Rohs and the Revs. D. A. Cameron and W. Fraser secured the degree of M.A., and Mr. S. L. Balmer that of B.A. Messrs. J. H. Horwood, E. J. Horwood, J. Sarvaas, and A. H. Merrin have become civil engineers. Messrs. J. E. M'Intyre, T. J. Connelly, F. J. Macoboy, H. W. C. Simpson, C. L. Smith, F. D. Jones, G. D. Watson, T. N. Woodward, A. J. O'Dwyer, E. B. Hyett, and P. B. P. Rymer, solicitors, are also sons of Bendigo.

The Bendigo Volunteer Rifle Corps was established in 1860, and continued in existence until the disbandment of the Victorian Volunteer forces at the close of 1883. At the last parade there were three members, Captain Anderson, Lieutenant Cahill, and Staff-Sergeant Fly, who joined the corps at its inception. They had consequently served for above twenty-three years, the three of them having received medals for long and effective service. During its life-time the Bendigo corps had seven commanding officers, viz., Captain Anderson, Jas. Skene, Brewer, Lysaght, J. H. Taylor, and Majors G. P. Joseph and W. G. Blackham. There were three Surgeons, Drs. Betham, Stuart, and Hinchcliff. The Bendigo Rifles not only enjoyed a high reputation amongst the Volunteer forces of the colony for general efficiency, but also achieved great success as marksmen, gaining very many creditable victories in rifle contests. One of these was against the famous Robin Hood Company of Nottingham Rifles in the year 1864, the scores being: Bendigo, 1,458; and Robin Hood, 1,259. The Bendigo Cavalry troop was established in 1861, and in the following year became known as the Sandhurst Troop of Prince of Wales' Victorian Volunteer Light Horse. Captain Bastard, the first in command, was succeeded by Captain Julius Cohn. In 1865 Captain Robert Moorhead assumed command, which he retained till 1875, when he was promoted to the rank of Major, Lieutenant Sibley succeeding him as Captain. In 1878 Lieutenant Henderson was promoted to the rank of Captain, and accepted the command of the troop. On his retirement in 1880, Captain Sibley resumed command, which he held till the disbandment of the troop in February, 1884.

Under the Militia system which came into vogue in 1884, the Sandhurst Detachment of the 4th Battalion, or as it is now called, the Bendigo Battalion of the 4th Victorian Regiment, has a strength of upwards of 200. It has been under the command of Major Blackham, Major Palliser, Captain Rogers and Captain (now Major) Robin. The strength of the Bendigo Detachment of Cavalry in 1891, was seventy-one. Major Kirby was the commanding officer, but during his absence from the colony in 1889, the troop was under the temporary command of Lieutenant G. G. McColl. The local cadets, known as the First Battalion of the Victorian Cadets, are over 200 strong, and are commanded by Captain Campbell.

CHAPTER XIX.

The Churches.

"A Christian is God Almighty's gentleman."
—*Hare.*

Early Efforts in the Cause of Religion—The Various Denominations.

IT can be well understood that when the discovery of gold on Bendigo first attracted a population, very little attention was given to public worship. There were no Churches, and even when representatives of the Roman Catholic, Church of England, Wesleyan and Presbyterian Churches made their appearance, public worship was conducted either in the open air or in tents. The late Dr. Backhaus was the first clergyman who set foot on Bendigo, and he conducted mass in a tent, with the greater part of the congregation outside in the open air. He preached his sermon from a stump outside the tent. Wesleyan local preachers had been on Bendigo even before Dr. Backhaus, and their services were held in the open air and in tents. Towards the end of 1852 a building was erected for public worship on the ground of the present schoolhouse, Golden Square. The Church of England too, was early in the field, and the Anglican service was also conducted under similar disadvantages. Although the Presbyterians held religious services prior to 1854, it was not till that year that Dr. Nish arrived on Bendigo. He describes how public worship had to be carried on for two months, in an old smithy constructed of slabs, with a calico roof. The seats consisted of rough pieces of wood, driven two feet into the ground to keep them steady, with coarse slabs nailed on the top of them, with no backs.

All Saints' Church of England dates from 1852, but the present building was erected five years later. The first clergyman was

the Rev. J. H. Gregory, who was succeeded in 1855 by the Rev. J. D. Brennan; in 1857 by the Rev. Stone; in 1860 by the Rev. W. R. Croxton; and in 1883 by the Rev. J. Garlick. The School and the Parsonage, which were erected in later years, are fine structures. Services were held at Long Gully in 1856, but St. Matthew's Church was not built till 1883. Services have been held at Golden Square regularly since 1860. The present building was erected in 1881, and the present incumbent is the Rev. Mr. Buchanan. There are two Chinese Mission Churches within the parish of All Saints'. St. Mary's Church of England, at Kangaroo Flat, was opened in 1862; the Rev. J. Frewin assumed charge in 1884. In 1891 he was succeeded by the Rev. H. Mitchell. The first service at White Hills was held by the Rev. J. H. Gregory, in 1853; the Rev. H. J. Mitchell was in charge for some time previous to 1891. Services were held in the Eaglehawk district in 1855 by the Rev. J. D. Brennan, who was succeeded in 1865 by the Rev. A. Brazier; in 1868 by the Rev. G. W. Watson; in 1869 by the Rev. J. Carlisle; and in 1882 by the Rev. R. W. Cooke. The Rev. S. B. Scott is the present incumbent. St. Paul's Church, Bendigo, was built in 1868, the tower for the peal of bells being added in 1872, and the Parsonage in 1885. The Ven. Archdeacon MacCullagh has been in charge since 1869, and is held in high estimation by all classes of the community. The Rev. J. M'T. Evans is curate.

Until August, 1854, when the Rev. J. Nish arrived, the Presbyterians were without a regular minister. The present Church was built in 1859, the Manse having been erected previously. The congregation retained the services of their minister during a period of over thirty-five years, and within that time Mr. Nish, who became a Doctor of Divinity in 1880, rendered great service, not only to the Church in Victoria, but to the Church in Australia as a whole. His high talents secured for him recognition as one of the leading lights of the Victorian Presbyterian Assembly, and peculiarly fitted him to be chiefly instrumental in bringing about the federation of the Presbyterian Churches of Australia. This signal service was recognised by his unanimous election by all the Presbyteries of the several colonies, as the first moderator of the Federal Assembly, the highest honour ever accorded to any Australian Presbyterian clergyman. He resigned in 1890, and was succeeded by the Rev. A. S. C. James. The

Eaglehawk Church was the first offshoot from St. Andrew's, the Church being opened in 1860. The Rev. R. Henderson was the first clergyman. He was succeeded in 1862 by the Rev. J. L. Abernethy; in 1869 by the Rev. W. M. White; in 1873 by the Rev. J. B. Reid; and in 1877 by the Rev. R. Lewers. The next offshoot from St. Andrew's was St. John's, now known as the West Sandhurst Church. It was at first under the charge of the Rev. R. Lewers, but a split in the congregation occurring, the Rev. T. E. Ick became the minister for one section, and the Rev. W. C. MacDonald for the other. Since then the two sections became re-united under the Rev. J. H. Potter. The third offshoot from St. Andrew's was the Golden Square Church, which was established in 1873. The Rev. A. W. Sinclair was the first clergyman, and was succeeded by the Revs. A. Stoker, G. M. Connor and J. M'Laren.

Dr. Backhaus, who was the pioneer clergyman of the Roman Catholic Church on Bendigo, arrived in March, 1852. Services were first held in High Street, but subsequently in a tent near the site of the present pro-Cathedral. St. Kilian's Church, which was demolished three or four years ago, was erected in 1857. During Dr. Backhaus' absence from Bendigo (from 1863 to 1868) the Rev. Father O'Dwyer and Dean Hayes had charge of St. Kilian's. In 1872, Dr. Backhaus was created a Dean, and remained in full charge of the district till 1875, when the northern part of Victoria was formed into a Diocese, and Dr. Crane appointed Bishop. Dr. Backhaus was appointed Vicar-General, a position which he held till 1880, when Dr. Reville succeeded him. In 1876 the Convent was established. In 1882 Dr. Crane went to Europe to obtain treatment for his eyesight, which was failing. During his absence Dr. Reville was appointed Coadjutor Bishop. Dr. Crane returned to Bendigo in 1886, without having received any relief, his eyesight having, in the meantime, failed completely. During Dr. Crane's connection with the district, a very fine residence for Bishop and clergy has been erected, and many enlargements and improvements effected at the Convent. Dr. Backhaus died in September, 1882. During his residence on Bendigo he took a warm interest in local affairs, and was one of the foremost amongst the founders of the local Hospital. He was ever to the front in good works, and tended the sick poor with a woman's tenderness and a physician's skill. At his death he left nearly £100,000 to

St. Kilian's Church, under conditions which preclude its being touched till 1903.

Methodism found an early root in Bendigo, the pioneer local preacher being James Jeffrey, who arrived in the district early in 1852. Messrs. Symons and Chapman were the first Methodist ministers engaged at Forest Creek, and both preached occasionally on Bendigo, the former conducting the first services at Eaglehawk, Long Gully and Golden Gully. Services were first held on Bendigo proper on Commissioners' Flat, in 1852, in the open air. The first stone building used by the Wesleyans was erected in Forest Street, in 1857. Two years later a similar building was erected at Golden Square, and, in 1863, the Eaglehawk Wesleyan Church was built. These buildings have all given place to new and more substantial Churches since, while many have also been erected in new districts. Of the ministers who have from time to time led the Methodist cause in the district, the following may be mentioned.—The Revs. T. Raston, J. Dare, Dubourg, Atkin, J. Bickford, G. Daniel, T. James, W. Hill, W. P. Wells, W. L. Blamires, Millard, H. Bath, W. H. Fitchett, E. S. Bickford, J. Waterhouse, R. C. Flockhart, S. T. Withington, W. Williams, J. Harcourt, S. Williams, E. W. Nye, P. R. C. Usher, J. H. Ingham, A. Powell, J. S. Greer, J. Cowperthwaite, J. P. M'Cann, E. C. De Garis, A. Lelean, Scholes, Bridgewood and J. W. Tuckfield.

The first Congregational minister on Bendigo was the Rev. Mark Butler, who came to the district in 1853. Public worship was conducted in a building in Market Square, but, in 1858, the Church in Forest Street was opened. Alterations and additions were made to this building in subsequent years, and the congregation recently completed a new and handsome structure. The Rev. M. Butler was succeeded by the Revs. W. R. Fletcher, W. R. Lewis, W. Allen, J. King, S. I. Green and R. K. Mackay.

Welsh Churches existed in Eaglehawk since 1866, and at present the Congregationalist section of the original body still exists, although, to have their pulpit filled, the members have to rely upon English lay preachers and occasional visits from Welsh ministers in other districts.

The German Church was established in 1856, Pastor Goethe, of Melbourne, officiating occasionally. Pastor Gericke conducted the services for a short time, and Pastor Burkhard officiated from

the beginning of 1858. Pastor Munzel accepted a call in 1862, and the Church was built in 1865—during his connection with the congregation. Pastor Herlitz officiated occasionally in 1868 and 1869, but Pastor Leypoldt assumed charge in the latter year. His popularity is attested to by the fact that he has been successful in keeping the congregation so well together, and has maintained his connection with it for twenty-two years.

The Baptist Church dates from 1854, having been established at Epsom, chiefly by the instrumentality of Mr. Edward C. Jones. In 1858 Bendigo became the headquarters of the Church in the Bendigo district, and the building in Hargreaves Street has since been added to as occasion required. The first settled minister was the Rev. E. Henderson; the next the Rev. W. R. Wade, then the Rev. C. Smith, the Rev. T. Taylor, the Rev. F. Hibberd, the Rev. G. W. Gillings, the Rev. J. Gregson, the Rev. T. Porter, the Rev. W. C. Tayler and the Rev. E. Welch.

The Jewish residents assembled for public worship as early as 1854, but the present Synagogue was not erected till 1872. The undermentioned clergymen have officiated as Rabbis from time to time, but there have been several intervals during which Readers have conducted the services:—The Revs. Friedman, Stone, Isidore Myers and Goldstein. Mr. Myers will be remembered outside of his own congregation for his generous sympathy with all charitable movements and his elocutionary entertainments.

Other Churches in the district, with their present pastors, are as follows:—

Bible Christian Churches at Bendigo, Long Gully, Sheepwash, California Gully, St. Mungo, Emu Creek and Eaglehawk, Rev. F. Lockwood; M'Kenzie Street Church, Rev. W. Hicks.

United Methodist Churches: Calvin Street, Ironbark and Golden Gully, Rev. H. Wallace.

Church of Christ (no settled minister).

Primitive Methodist Churches: Rowan Street, Wade Street, Buckley Street, Rev. H. B. Barber; Eaglehawk and Sebastian, Rev. A. Madsen.

The Salvation Army commenced operations in Bendigo in 1883. They possess extensive barracks in Bendigo and Eaglehawk, and the leader in the district is "Captain" Carisbrook.

CHAPTER XX.

Amusements.

"Pleasures, or wrong or rightly understood,
Our greatest evil, or our greatest good."
—*Pope.*

Out-door Sports—The Drama.

FROM the earliest times Bendigo has been noted for its partiality for field sports. Horse-racing came into fashion as soon as the community began to be settled, and sports of the ordinary kind were also arranged at holiday seasons by various Societies, the Caledonian games retaining a great hold on the public through a long series of years. The Hibernian sports have grown in favour as the interest in the Caledonian games has waned. In more recent years we have had the Eight Hours', Citizens', and Miners' Sports. Of English games, cricket came into fashion in the early fifties, long before any attention was given to football. The district has been famous for its cricketers—H. F. Boyle and W. Midwinter—who learned their cricket on Bendigo, having achieved distinction not only in Australia, but in England—the home of the game. The district has also been represented at different times in Victorian representative teams by other local players. Of late years, although the excellent cricketing standard has been well maintained, and the Bendigo United Cricket Eleven is only inferior to the leading teams of the metropolis, cricket has had to give place to football in popular favour. Though the local players are not at present pre-eminent amongst country footballers, and while they are scarcely expert enough to compete with success against metropolitan twenties, the local matches are, as a rule, close and interesting. Rowing

is also a popular pastime with the youth of the district, and though Lake Weeroona is small, it has been the scene of some interesting contests. The local men have achieved some creditable victories against metropolitan oarsmen on the Salt-water and Yarra Rivers.

The Bendigo Jockey Club (established 1854), has an excellent course at Epsom, with a commodious Stand, a well-kept lawn and fernery, a carriage reserve, and all the accessories of a well-appointed racecourse. Mr. John Hemming is the present Secretary, a position which was held for many years by Mr. W. P. Neal, one of the Club's fathers.

The Bendigo United Cricket Club was established in 1861, and other leading cricket clubs are the North Bendigo, Eaglehawk, Kangaroo Flat, and Golden Square.

In football, the leading clubs are the Sandhurst, Bendigo, Eaglehawk, North Sandhurst, and North Bendigo; and the rowing clubs are the Sandhurst, Bendigo, and Eaglehawk. The Sandhurst and Eaglehawk bowling clubs possess well-kept greens; and among other athletic institutions may be mentioned the hunt, coursing, tennis, gun, and bicycling clubs.

The first theatre on Bendigo was the Royal, which was opened in January, 1854, by Mr. J. Carncross, *The Lady of Lyons* being performed on the occasion. The Royal was on the site of the Shamrock. At about the same time concerts were held at the Casino, a tent on the site of the Lyceum. In April, 1854, the Royal Victoria Theatre was opened near the site of the present Town Hall, Mr. C. H. Rignold being proprietor. It was here that Mr. Charles Thatcher scored his early successes as a local topical songster, and his popularity led to Mr. J. R. Greville, the popular comedian of later years, singing original local songs also, at the Royal. Mrs. Wooldridge and Miss Wernham appeared at the Royal. Later on in 1854, the Princess' Theatre was opened at the Criterion Hotel, and in September was patronised by Sir Charles and Lady Hotham. Coleman's Criterion Theatre was opened in 1856. A tier of boxes elevated twelve feet above the pit, ran round the house, and the proscenium opening was twenty-five feet wide. Concerts were also held nightly at the Shamrock Concert Hall, which was under the management of Messrs. Heffernan and Crowley. In April, 1856, when Lola Montes was playing at the Criterion,

it was struck by lightning, and that actress, after calming the fears of the audience, said it was the first time she had played the part of "The Little Devil" to real thunder and lightning. Mr. G. V. Brooke appeared at this theatre in May, 1856, in Shakespearian and other characters, this being the first of several visits paid by him to Bendigo. The Criterion was afterwards known as the Haymarket.

The Lyceum Theatre, known to theatre-goers of later years, was erected in 1860; but a smaller building on the same site had been known as the Lyceum previously. At the same time the Shamrock Concert Hall was enlarged and transformed into a theatre. For many years the Lyceum was the principal place of amusement. It was 115 feet in length, over fifty feet in width, and nearly forty feet high, with pit, stalls, and dress circle capable of accommodating nearly 2,000 persons. The stage was fifty-five feet in depth. It was closed as a place of amusement in 1872. The following noted actors and actresses who appeared at the Lyceum at one time or another, and were dead when the theatre was closed, may be mentioned:—G. V. Brooke (who was drowned in the "London,") Sir William Don (who died at Hobart), Robert Heir, Rogers, Professor Parker, Fred. Young, Rosalie Durand, Avonia Jones, Emily Neville, Charles Vincent, James Simmons, Walter Montgomery (who committed suicide in London), Charles Kean, Harriet Gordon, Paul Maxey, Chute, the comedian, the Marsh Troupe (some of whom are dead), Noble, W. Drew, and Kate Warde. In 1873 St. James' Hall was built by Mr. W. Heffernan, at a cost of £5,000. The Hall is 100 feet long, forty feet broad, thirty feet high, and accommodates 1,500 people. It was opened on the 8th April, when the Philharmonic Society gave a grand rendition of Handel's oratorio, "Judas Maccabæus."

In August, 1874, the Royal Princess' Theatre was opened by the performance of *The Grand Duchess*. The new building cost £12,000, and was built to accommodate 2,000 persons. The theatre is 130 feet long by eighty-eight feet wide, and forty-eight feet high from floor to ceiling. The stage is fifty-six feet long by fifty-six feet broad. There are a dress circle, gallery, pit, and stalls, and the accommodation for scenery and scene-painting is very complete. The following artists have appeared at the Princess' from time to time:—Madame Anna Bishop, Eleanor Carey,

Alice May, Madame de Murska, Madame Ristori, Emilie Melville, Beaumont, Scott-Siddons, Mrs. Mary Gladstone, Madlle. Alice Charbonnet, the pianiste, J. C. Williamson, Maggie Moore, Carlotta Tasca, Ketten, the musician, Louise Pomeroy, Madame Boema, Wilhelmj, the violinist, Grattan Riggs, Dewhurst, Holloway, Essie Jenyns, Annis Montague, Turner, George Coppin, Jennie Lee, W. E. Sheridan, Dampier, Nellie Stewart, J. F. Sheridan, Marie de Grey, Genevieve Ward, W. H. Vernon, the Majeronis. Phil Day, J. R. Greville, George Leitch, Madame Melba, vocalist, Frank Thornton, Herr Koehler, the pianist, George Rignold, Locke Richardson, Amy Sherwin, G. C. Miln, Charles Warner, J. L. Toole, and Madame Patey, the vocalist. Miss Rossow, who appeared with Madame Patey, is a native of the district. Amongst lecturers who have appeared at the theatre may be mentioned the Revs. Charles Clark, Joseph Cook, Major Dane, Messrs. C. E. Jones, Sheridan, Henry George, and Miss Von Finkelstein.

The Masonic Theatre was opened in April, 1890. The north wall of the Masonic Hall had been removed and a proscenium formed, together with a stage forty-five feet deep by thirty-two feet wide, fitted with all the necessities of a first-class theatre.

Bendigo has always been rich in amateurs, and even long before the appearance of Messrs. John McIntyre and Angus Mackay in *Rob Roy*, various dramas had been successfully produced by amateurs of the district, amongst others being Messrs. F. C. Standish, J. A. C. Helm, and W. Brown. *Rob Roy* was played altogether on eleven occasions: nine times at the Lyceum and twice at the Princess'. Mrs. Duncan scored a decided success as Helen McGregor. In 1878, *Hamlet* was produced in splendid style, Mr. W. J. Dillon playing the *title rôle* in a masterly manner. In later years Harry Marks, whose father had been good in comedy, proved himself a comedian of a high order; while in 1889 and 1890, the Liedertafel and La Mascotte Society were remarkably successful in opera, producing *Pinafore*, *Pirates of Penzance*, *Le Cloches de Corneville*, *Maritana*, and *Tambour Major*. The Liedertafel, which has been by far the most successful of several musical societies established on Bendigo, was originated in 1884 by Mr. A. T. Crook, the present popular conductor. Mr. William Brown, the well-known solicitor, now practising in

Melbourne, took an active part, along with his brother, Mr. T. Brown, in the inauguration of the Liedertafel. Mr. W. Brown always took a warm interest in matters musical, and for many years was one of the most prominent singers in the district. Contemporary with him in the sixties were Mrs. Betham and Mrs. Ellis, and in the seventies, Mrs. A. E. B. Casey. Messrs. M. and F. Macoboy are among the leading members of the Liedertafel, and the former is its president. In addition to many excellent vocalists, Bendigo has produced an admirable elocutionist in Miss Hemming, who on the occasion of her appearance at the theatre in 1890 astonished her audience by the ability she displayed. It should be mentioned that the Pickwick Club and the S.E.S. (Sandhurst Ethiopian Serenaders) have given numerous performances in aid of charitable objects. Bendigo has been noted for its bands of music. For many years Hallas' City Band was pre-eminent among the bands of the colonies, and in later years we have had such excellent bands as Monaghan's, Northcott's, and Butler's, the principal in the present day being the City Band.

Our reference to amusements would not be complete without mention of the MacMahon Brothers, of Bendigo, who, by their enterprise, have earned the distinction in the colonies of being second only to the well-known firm of Messrs. Williamson and Garner. The MacMahons are Bendigo natives.

CHAPTER XXI.

Agriculture and Viticulture.

"Yet, nursed with skill, what dazzling fruits appear."

Agriculture—Ensilage—Statistics—Live Stock—Fruit and Vine Growing—The Wine Industry.

BENDIGO is the centre of a large agricultural district, which should yield richly as the supply of water becomes greater, and better regulated by the various water trusts. During the year ending 1st March, 1890, the gross produce of wheat in the County of Bendigo was 867,758 bushels from 61,319 acres under tillage; of oats, 524,179 bushels from 17,529 acres; of barley (malting), 24,358 bushels from 1,023 acres; of barley (other), 20,330 bushels from 953 acres; of maize, 20 bushels from 2 acres; of rye, 104 bushels from 11 acres; of pease and beans, 285 bushels from 17 acres; of root crops (exclusive of those in market or kitchen gardens), 129 tons from 32 acres; of hay, 49,764 tons from 33,702 acres; of grapes, 23,880 cwt. from 1,056 acres of vines. There were 164 acres of market gardens, 1,807 acres of gardens and orchards, and 30,018 acres of land in fallow. During the year ending March 1st, 1890, there were 13 ensilage farms in Marong, producing 1,383 tons of ensilage, and 5 in Strathfieldsaye, from which were produced 76 tons. The following figures relating to the value of agricultural implements and machinery and improvements on farms are for the same year :—

	Agricultural Implements and Machinery.	Improvements on Farms.
	£	£
Bendigo (City)	1,086	16,825
Marong	94,213	267,267
Huntly	25,527	117,891
Strathfieldsaye	17,123	110,051

During the year ending 1st March, 1890, there were 988 horses in Bendigo, 202 in Eaglehawk, 6,754 in Marong, 2,151 in Huntly, and 5,375 in Strathfieldsaye; 811 milch cows in Bendigo, 71 in Eaglehawk, 4,748 in Marong, 2,072 in Huntly, and 2,745 in Strathfieldsaye; 187 other cattle in Bendigo, 8,665 in Marong, 5,764 in Huntly, and 5,006 in Strathfieldsaye; 144 sheep in Bendigo, 166,998 in Marong, 46,617 in Huntly, and 11,491 in Strathfieldsaye; 950 pigs in Bendigo, 406 in Eaglehawk, 2,036 in Marong, 1,320 in Huntly, and 936 in Strathfieldsaye.

"Turn we
To vigorous soils, and climes of fair extent;
Where, by the potent sun elated high,
The vineyard swells refulgent to the day."

The district surrounding Bendigo is noted for its fruit, the descriptions chiefly grown being grapes, apples, apricots, plums, peaches, pears, lemons and strawberries. While it is expected that there will be a great future for the fruit industry, the wine industry is confidently regarded as the eventual mainstay of the district. The cultivation of the grape is confined principally to the Shires of Strathfieldsaye, Marong and Huntly. During the year ending 1st of March, 1890, there were 658 acres of vines in Strathfieldsaye, from which 5,069 cwt. of grapes were gathered and not made into wine, and 9,723 cwt. of grapes were gathered and made into wine. The wine produced amounted to 60,979 gallons. There were 137 acres of vines in Marong, from which 1,560 cwt. of grapes were gathered and not made into wine, and 1,569 cwt. were gathered and made into wine, of which there were produced 10,210 gallons. There were 177 acres in Huntly, from which 2,242 cwt. of grapes were gathered and not made into wine, and 2,596 cwt. were gathered and made into wine and brandy. The wine produced amounted to 16,751 gallons, and the brandy manufactured to 40 gallons. The total figures for these three districts were therefore 972 acres of vines, 8,871 cwt. of grapes gathered and not made into wine, and 13,888 cwt. of grapes gathered and made into wine, 87,940 gallons of wine produced, and 40 gallons of brandy manufactured.

The suitability of the Bendigo district for the cultivation of the grape was recognised early in the fifties, and in 1864 the wines of the district were admired and sought after by judges of admitted

authority. There were numerous vineyards on the Emu, Axe, Sheepwash, and Bullock Creeks, and at Epsom, Huntly, Lockwood, Adelaide Vale, Yarraberb, and other localities, which have since become famous for their wines. Messrs. Panton and Otway were amongst the first and most successful vignerons of the district, their vineyards being situated at Epsom and Huntly. The industry has progressed greatly since they started, and there are many vignerons in and around Bendigo whose wines have everywhere gained a high reputation. Mr. F. de Castella, expert to the Board of Viticulture, contributed the following general remarks to the journal of the Board not long ago :—

The climate of the Bendigo district is warm, but not excessively so, and is intermediate between that of the Yarra Valley and Rutherglen ; it is, therefore, capable of producing lighter wines than the latter place, although, as a rule, the wines produced are not of a very light description. Some that I tasted were excellent, and were remarkable for their bouquet and freedom from what is known in France as *gout de terroir ;* they are mellow, round, and possess good keeping qualities. The kinds grown are chiefly the Red Hermitage, Carbinet, Sauvignon, Burgundy, Mataro, Grenache, Dolcetto, and one or two others, though to a limited extent, for red wines ; whilst for white, the principal varieties are Riesling, Chasselas, Pedro Ximenes, Madeira, Verdeilho, Gouais, White Hermitage, Frontignac, and many table varieties. Although the white varieties are, as a rule, suitable, this is not entirely the case with the red, the Shiraz or Red Hermitage meeting, in my opinion, with an undue amount of favour, and such varieties as the Mataro, Carignane, Dolcetto, etc., being more or less neglected. Were the latter cultivated to a greater extent, the resulting wines would be lighter and better suited for the European market.

In our necessarily brief reference to the vine-growing industry, it is not possible to do justice to all the growers ; but dealing shortly with the chief among them, beginning with Strathfieldsaye, we may say that Bruhn's vineyard, at Emu Creek, has been one of the best known in past years. It is thirty-five acres in extent, and Mr. Bruhn has done an extensive trade with other districts, and England and Germany for many years. He thoroughly understands the business, having been brought up to it in his native country, and with an extensive cellarage, and excellent appliances, has every opportunity to establish a very large trade in the future. Mr. Bruhn has carried off a great number of prizes at various exhibitions. Mr. A. W. Fox has also been a large prize-taker for the excellence of his wines. His vineyard is situated on the Emu Creek, and consists of over 70 acres, the

greater part of which is planted. Mr. J. T. Deravin, of the Sheepwash, has 14 acres under vines, and 3 under other fruits. He has never exhibited for prizes. The principal wines produced by Mr. Deravin are Hermitage, Claret, Pedro-Ximenes, Verdeilho, Reisling, and Chasselas. He believes that "vine growing will yet become the chief factor of Victorian wealth, and that the wines of Bendigo will take the leading place in the markets of the world." Mr. W. Greiffenhagen has 45 acres under vines on Axe Creek. Mr. de Castella says that the excellent wines he tasted in Mr. Greiffenhagen's large and convenient cellars would convince anyone of the capabilities of the district. Some of the wines, being old, had developed remarkable bouquet. It should be mentioned that Mr. Greiffenhagen's cellars have been described as the finest in the Southern Hemisphere. Mr. Greiffenhagen has received numerous prizes, and his orchard is also noted for its produce of fruit. Mr. T. Craike's vineyard and orchard are situated on the Axe Creek, and consist of about 65 acres. He also owns about 600 acres of uncultivated land. The vineyard and orchard occupy one of the best sites on the creek, as a natural stone weir just below it dams back the water for a considerable distance. This enables Mr. Craike to utilise pumping machinery very advantageously. Mr. Craike thinks well of the Red Hermitage, from which he produces some excellent wine. Much care is taken of the vineyard, and the admirable quality of Mr. Craike's wines has been attributed by Mr. de Castella to the generous system of pruning which he has adopted. Mr. Craike's orchard is one of the best in the district. He had a magnificent crop of apples during the season 1890-1, and took a leading part in the movement to export this fruit for sale on the London markets. Mr. M. Rundell, who has a vineyard and orchard of ten acres in the Strathfieldsaye district, has much faith in the future of the industry. He intends to put additional land under vines during the ensuing year. Mr. Rundell produces several varieties of table grapes, such as Black Prince, St. Peter, Muscat of Alexander, Morastel, Raisin de Dame, Malaga, and Sweet Water, and of wine grapes grows Hermitage, Reisling, Chasselas, and Mataro, the first-mentioned being the best. Mr. F. Grosse, of the Tooronga Vineyard, Emu Creek, has 35 acres under vines. The varieties of wine grapes grown are the White Reisling, Verdeilho, Grenache, Tokay, and Madeira, and of the Red

Hermitage, Carbinet, Sauvignon, and Red Grenache. The chief wines grown are blends named Hock, Chablis, and Claret; the unblended wines are Reisling, Verdeilho, Hermitage, and Carbinet. Mr. Grosse has been an extensive prize-taker at international and intercolonial exhibitions. He regards the industry as in its infancy, but believes that it will yet become one of the chief sources of income to the colony. The cultivated land in Mr. A. Mannis's vineyard covers over 40 acres on the Axe Creek. Various kinds of vines have been planted, the principal varieties being the Waltham Cross, Chasselas, Frontignac, Hermitage, Verdeilho, Reisling, and Dolcetto. Mr. De Castella has expressed the opinion that the last-mentioned variety is not cultivated so much in the Bendigo district as it ought to be. Mr. Mannis's vineyard shows what may be done by the energy and attention of one man and his family of grown up sons and daughters. Amongst other vignerons in Strathfieldsaye may be mentioned Messrs. Read, Brennan, Pohl, Burne, Lowndes, and Mrs. Kronk and Mrs. Meyer. Peterson's Johannisberg Vineyard consists of over 30 acres. Mr. de Castella states that when he visited this vineyard he tasted some fine wines, of a strong description, made from Pedro Ximenes and other grapes. In Bendigo there are Mr. Kahland's cellars, scrupulously clean and neat, containing most excellent wines. Mr. Kahland has no vineyard of his own, but is to be credited with great judgment in the selection of the fruit which he purchases from vinegrowers in the district. The cellars are situated in King Street, on the site of a puddler's claim, which was taken up by Mr. Kahland, sen., nearly 30 years ago.

Mr. C. J. Busst, of Huntly, has fifteen acres under vines, Hermitage, Pedro Ximenes, White Hermitage (wine grapes), and Champion Muscat, Waltham Cross, Red and Black Prince, Muscatels, Black St. Peter, Raisin de Dames, etc. He has two acres under peaches and apricots, and one acre under apples, pears and plums. The wines produced are Hermitage and Pedro Ximenes. Mr. Busst considers that the valley at Huntly where it widens out is splendidly adapted for the cultivation of the vine and peach and apricot. Mr. A. Ruedin, of Huntly, has thirty-two acres, including young vines, besides ten acres under other fruit. The chief kinds of wine produced are Hermitage, Carbinet, Mataro, Burgundy, Verdeilho, Reisling,

Pedro Ximenes, Frontignac and Muscat. He is of opinion that the industry is likely to have a great future. He goes on to say :—"The quality of our wines cannot be surpassed. I do not say we can make a French or German wine, and I think it would be folly to try. But let our wines go to the market after they are properly matured, as Australian wines, and I am convinced they will be appreciated as much as wines of other countries." Messrs. Delbridge Brothers, of Epsom, also speak hopefully of the future of the wine industry. They have been very successful in producing table grapes. Mr. W. Scheuffle has a vineyard of twelve acres, in which he grows various kinds of grapes, including Shiraz and Frontignac. In Lockwood are Messrs. F. Meyer and Wallis and others, in Woodstock, Mr. Bassett and others, and at Newbridge Mr. Summers and others, all of whom have been successful in the cultivation of the grape. The Board of Viticulture has had 850 acres at Emu Creek reserved for the purpose of a Viticultural College, and has also secured the reservation of 800 acres at Huntly, suitable for an experimental station.

Two shipments of Bendigo apples were sent to London in 1891, and the success of the experiment was such as to lead the local fruit producers to entertain the idea of repeating it on a larger scale in future seasons.

The Weeroona Apiary at Strathfieldsaye, established by Mr. J. G. Edwards, but now carried on by Mr. M. G. Salmon, produces 7,500 lbs. of honey every year. In addition, Mr. Salmon proposes to cultivate the grape and other fruits on an extensive scale.

CHAPTER XXII.

Conclusion.

"With clink of hammers, closing rivets up."
—*Cibber.*

Local Industries—The Pottery—The Rolling Stock Works—The Foundries—Various Manufactories—Statistics—"The Forest City"—Sandhurst's Health-giving Climate—The Future Outlook.

WE have now completed our record of the rise and progress of the district and its various institutions, and of the development of its resources. Amongst other industries may be mentioned specially the Bendigo Pottery Works, which give employment to a large staff, and turn out some excellent crockeryware, earthenware, fancyware, piping, etc. They are situated at Epsom, where clay, suitable for the purposes of manufacture, may be obtained in abundance. Mr. G. D. Guthrie, who established the pottery in 1858, commenced with two boys; but it was not till the railway was built that the industry assumed respectable dimensions. In 1866 he opened a depôt in Melbourne for acid bottles, and all kinds of brown stoneware. The trade has grown steadily, as the country has been opened up, and as population has increased. In 1874 he added steam power, and has now three engines, the largest of thirty-five horse-power, and the smallest of eight. He produces Majolica, Barbotine, Sevres, and other ornamental art pottery, and finds a ready market. Some years ago his business was taken over by a company, and more recently Mr. Guthrie went to the Old Country, visited some of the leading potteries, and brought back with him many labour-saving appliances.

His manufactures now range from the humblest flower-pot to the finest ornamental art pottery. He has been signally successful in the manufacture of Bristol ware, the body of the ware, and the glaze equalling the best home makes. The works cover about two and a-half acres; there are eleven kilns, which are burnt every week: there is a railway siding with rails up to the warehouse door. There is abundance of clay in the neighbourhood suitable for a base, other clays being brought from elsewhere, such as china clay from Lal Lal. About one hundred hands are employed, and over £400 are paid every fortnight for wages and fuel.

The Bendigo Rolling Stock Works, which give employment to between 200 and 300 hands, and pay £25,000 in wages annually, have completed several large orders for rolling stock for the Victorian Railways. The works are situated at the corner of Williamson and Myers Streets, and also have a frontage to Bull Street. The machinery and appliances are of an elaborate description, and thoroughly up to date, enabling the Company to construct every requisite in the first and second-class carriages, excepting the wheels and springs, the latter being supplied. The plant is capable of turning out £100,000 worth of rolling-stock, of the highest class, per annum, besides about £10,000 worth of private vehicles, such as buggies, waggonettes, and other light business and pleasure carriages. The power used in the factory consists of one seventy-five horse-power engine for railway work, and one fifteen horse-power engine for buggy work. Mr. Peter Ellis is now sole proprietor of the business. He has had a long and varied experience in mechanical engineering, notably railway stock and equipment, for which he holds high and valuable credentials. Carriages, in all stages of erection, may be seen at any time by a visitor to the works, which comprise one of the most prominent industrial establishments in the district.

The various foundries on Bendigo have not only supplied the machinery required locally on the mines, but have also received numerous and extensive orders from other goldfields in this and the adjoining colonies.

Messrs. Horwood and Son's foundry was established as far back as 1856: and no other foundry in Victoria has

been so long under one management. The firm has always enjoyed a high reputation for the character of the work it has turned out. The plant is of a first-class description, more particularly the boiler-making, plate bending, and punching and shearing machinery.

Messrs. Harkness and Co.'s Victoria Foundry, Golden Square, was commenced in a small way in 1858 by four practical workmen, Messrs. Irving, Espie, Braddish and Arundel. The firm prospered, but several changes occurred in the management, until in 1870 it consisted of Messrs. Ruddock and Harkness. Subsequently Messrs. R. Allingham and R. Lisle succeeded Mr. Ruddock in the firm, but they retired in 1881 and 1886, leaving Mr. Harkness sole proprietor. The latter entered into several government contracts for the supply of rolling-stock, one of which amounted to £24,000, and has been engaged in recent years chiefly in the manufacture of winding and pumping engines, air-compressing machinery, and quartz-crushing batteries. The firm claims to have made the largest air-compressing plant in the district and one upon which it is now engaged, to the order of Mr. George Lansell, will be the largest in Australia. Mr. Harkness has been successful in competing for work in Victoria and the other colonies, and it will be readily understood that the plant of his establishment is of a superior character. Mr. Harkness employs from sixty to seventy hands, and distributes about £7,000 per annum in wages.

Messrs. Roberts and Sons started business as general smiths with one forge in 1861. They subsequently removed to Wills Street, where they are now in a position to manufacture any machinery required for mining in the colonies, such as winding, pumping, crushing, rock-boring machinery and boilers. They have made some of the largest winding machinery on Bendigo, and during the past twelve months have supplied and fixed at Broken Hill South three pairs of direct-acting winding engines, one duplex air-compressor, three air-receivers, four Cornish and Lancashire boilers, and two double-cylinder 8-inch air winches, and two sets of pumping workings. Other Broken Hill orders which they completed were one 18-inch cylinder winding and pumping engine with pumps and boiler, and several pump workings, while they also forwarded three air-compressors to

ST. MUNGO LINE OF REEF, FROM THE BELMONT MINE

(From a negative kindly lent by the Mining Department).

Waukaringa, South Australia. In 1891 they had in hand a large contract for the Laanecoorie Weir, to the order of Mr. A. O'Keefe. They have made and fixed on that weir the largest outlet valves made in the colony. Messrs. Roberts and Sons employ from seventy to eighty hands, and hope soon to increase that number.

The Central Foundry has been in existence for many years, and does a large trade. The proprietors are Messrs. Swalling, Lake, Briggs, and Leaney. Messrs. Carter and Brown, whose works are situated in Creek Street, make a specialty of ornamental castings for verandahs, balconies, and railings generally. Previous to the establishment of this branch of industry, local builders were obliged to send to Melbourne for the castings described. The firm also manufactures all classes of agricultural castings. Mr. Taylor Horsfield started business in Long Gully in 1883, and owing to the increase of trade was obliged in 1889 to erect a new building, containing improved appliances. He employs eleven hands, and like the other iron-founders, turns out a large quantity of machinery for distant goldfields, his specialty being rock-borers. The Eaglehawk Foundry, of which Mr. Bousfield is the proprietor, was started in December, 1890, and is practically in its infancy.

Other industrial establishments in Bendigo are implement factories, brick and tile works, powder and fuse factories, flour-mills, bone-mills, brush manufactories, wire-work establishments, stone-polishing works, boot factories, eucalyptus works, six breweries (producing 895,440 gallons of ale per year), and cordial manufactories. The brewers are, Cohn's Brewery Company, W. Bruce and Sons, Hunter, Johnson and Illingworth, J. Fawns, J. Steward, and Pritchard and Chamberlain. Outside of Bendigo, Edwards and Deeble's Pyrites Works, Abbott's tannery at the Sheepwash, and Burke's Woodstock Dairy and Butter and Cheese Factory, are worthy of special mention. Messrs. Abbott and Co.'s tannery is principally engaged in preparing mill-belting, harness, and shoe leather, and turns out six hundred finished sides per week, and in addition to supplying the wants of Bendigo and neighbouring districts, exports several thousand sides annually to London. The appliances are of the most modern character, and waste products are all profitably utilised. The tannery is under the management of Mr. R. H. S. Abbott, and its

success sufficiently indicates his ability. There is a warehouse in the city in connection with the tannery, while at the boot factory at Messrs. J. H. Abbott and Co.'s retail establishment there are upwards of eighty hands employed. The principal coachbuilders, after the Rolling Stock Works, are those of Messrs. Scholten and Marsh, and Donnellan and Sheehan, and Mr. R. Hogan, of M'Crae Street, and E. Flood, Hargreaves Street, are the chief manufacturers of drays and waggons. There is great room in Bendigo for fruit-preserving industries. Mention must also be made of Day's asphalte works, the quality of the material composing the majority of the footpaths in the city being superior to anything of the kind in the colony.

Of manufactories, works, quarries, etc. (exclusive of those connected with mines), there were in Bendigo during the year ending March 1st, 1890, 149 altogether, of which forty were worked by steam, three by horse-power, twelve by gas, one by water, and ninety-three by manual labour. The total horse-power employed was 555; the number of hands, 1,652 males and 462 females. The approximate value of machinery and plant was £156,841; of the lands, £108,946; and of the buildings, £157,588. Summarising the manufactories, etc., in Eaglehawk, Marong, and Strathfieldsaye, the total was forty-four, thirty-three being worked by steam, one by horse-power, and ten by manual labour. The total horse-power was 431, the hands numbered 313 males, and four females; the approximate value of machinery and plant, £36,180; of lands, £4,020; and of buildings and improvements, £23,775. [Statistics of mining plant and machinery will be found in Chapter XI.]

Bendigo is noted for the beauty of its streets, by reason of the long avenues of trees. Out of 120 miles of streets in the city, ninety miles are planted with elms, oaks, firs, and gums, and Bendigo has earned the name of the "Forest City," by reason of their luxurious growth. How well it deserves the name will be understood by a glance at our extended views of the city and Pall Mall, where many of the buildings are obscured by the dense foliage. The street trees are under the care of Mr. Roper, a most efficient officer. The city is also rich in reserves, Rosalind Park, an area of sixty-six acres, situated in

the heart of the city, being the chief. This reserve is very tastefully laid out, and includes within its borders a magnificent fernery covering four acres—a really enchanting retreat. It has been described by competent authorities in the neighbouring colonies as the finest fernery in Australia. Mr. Lyons is the curator. The reserve round Lake Weeroona is also well laid out, while out of the city are the Botanical Gardens, covering an area of thirty-six acres, and containing a "Zoo." All these reserves are under the control of Mr. S. G. Gadd. Eaglehawk, too, has its Canterbury Park, Lake Reserve, Fernery, and Conservatory, upon which the Council expends a considerable sum annually. Mr. J. S. Smith is the curator. At Back Creek is Knight's nursery, which is a remarkable proof of what can be done in the way of cultivating the abandoned alluvial diggings. Mr. Knight, who is an enthusiastic and indefatigable botanist, does a large trade with the metropolis. Mr. J. P. Carolin also has great faith in the old diggings, and has devoted much attention to the cultivation of several acres in the Bendigo Valley near White Hills.

Although Bendigo summers are certainly warm, the heat, being dry in character, is not nearly so enervating as the moist heat to be met with in districts nearer the coast. This dry atmosphere renders the district extremely popular with people afflicted with throat and chest diseases, and many persons have found residence on the goldfield effective in warding off threatened attacks of consumption.

Bendigo, in 1891, possesses a decided appearance of stability. With its large area of only partially-explored auriferous territory, and its numerous undeveloped reefs, there is every reason to expect that it will, for many years to come, retain its reputation for gold production. Apart from this, however, is the fact that the Bendigo station is the converging point of many railway lines, which tap districts rich in the productiveness of their soil. With the effective aid of irrigation, many hitherto arid districts will, in time, "blossom like the rose," and as the centre of a large agricultural district, stretching northward to the Murray, Bendigo should continue to hold its own in the future as the chief centre of population in the northern half of the colony of Victoria.

Many of the pioneers whose deeds have been recorded in these pages, and many others who have rendered signal service in a quieter way, have passed out of the world, leaving bright records of their lives of usefulness. Some are still amongst us, active and honoured citizens. The work of the pioneers is almost finished—their rest is well earned—and in the natural order of events their places are being taken by the younger generation, who desire to emulate, in a generous way, the achievements which enshrine their fathers' memories.

ADDENDUM.

In chapter seventeenth the Long Gully, Eaglehawk, and California Gully Mechanics' Institutes, and the Golden Square Working Men's Club were mentioned. At the time of writing Mr. Horsfield is president, Mr. J. A. Hall, treasurer, and Mr. W. Wilson, secretary, of the Long Gully Mechanics' Institute, and Mr. W. L. Williams, president, and Mr. J. S. Abbott, librarian, of the Eaglehawk Institute. When the Golden Square Working Men's Club was established in 1883, those most identified with it were the president, the Rev. H. J. Howell, the treasurer, Mr. G. S. Bisset, the secretary, Mr. J. F. Hogan, and Messrs. W. H. Weir, T. Jones, R. Jones, J. Bisset, W. Bradshaw, Le Franz, Keefe, Aubrey, R. Rowe, E. Williams, A. G. James, H. W. James, Hewitt, Johns, O'Neil, Beeson, Webb, and Hope. At present Mr. A. G. James is president, Mr. T. S. Montgomery, secretary, and Mr. J. L. Allingham, treasurer. When the California Gully Mechanics' Institute was established in 1883, Mr. M. Thomas was elected president, Mr. M. J. Fardy, secretary, and Messrs. J. Veale, L. Fardy, J. Cameron, J. Taylor, T. T. Roper, and J. Job, trustees. Mr. M. J. Fardy is now the president, Mr. Veale, treasurer, and Mr. Ebbott, secretary.

APPENDIX.

REPRESENTATION OF BENDIGO IN PARLIAMENT.

ELECTIONS.

OLD NOMINEE COUNCIL.

1854, Dr. Owens represented the Bendigo diggers.

OLD LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

16TH NOVEMBER, 1855.

BENDIGO.—TWO SEATS.

R. Benson	606
J. M. Grant	550
S. Jones	379

[UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.]

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

SANDHURST.

10TH OCTOBER, 1856.

ONE SEAT.

J. M. Grant	692
J. F. Sullivan	415

26TH AUGUST, 1859.

TWO SEATS.

R. F. Howard	890
John Henderson	625
E. N. Emmett	525
R. Benson	518
Dowley	174
Grant	60

10TH AUGUST, 1861.

TWO SEATS.

W. D. C. Denovan	1557
J. J. Casey	1151
R. F. Howard	1142
Carpenter	238
Henderson	22

Mr. Howard petitioned against the return of Mr. Casey and secured the seat.

Mr. Denovan resigned his seat in July, 1862, and an election took place on the 30th August—

R. Strickland...	1258
D. Moore	754

3RD NOVEMBER, 1864.

TWO SEATS.

R. F. Howard	1011
J. Halfey	971
— Macarthy	906
T. McIlwraith	820

JANUARY, 1866.

TWO SEATS.

J. Halfey	1253
R. Burrowes	1226
R. F. Howard	1081

FEBRUARY, 1868.

TWO SEATS.

R. Burrowes	1111
A. Mackay	1067
J. Halfey	799

SANDHURST.—*Continued.*

JUNE, 1870.

On Mr. Mackay accepting office as Minister of Mines he was returned unopposed.

MARCH, 1871.

TWO SEATS.

A. Mackay	... 1181
R. Burrowes	... 1172
J. McIntyre	... 837
A. E. Moore	... 255
H. McColl	... 124

JUNE, 1872.

On Mr. Mackay accepting office as Minister of Mines—

A. Mackay	... 1409
E. Garsed	... 504

APRIL, 1874.

TWO SEATS.

R. Burrowes	... 2174
A. Mackay	... 2161
J. McIntyre	... 2105

MAY, 1877.

THREE SEATS.

R. Clark	... 2662
J. McIntyre	... 2520
W. G. Blackham ...	... 2215
A. Mackay	... 2128
R. Burrowes	... 1812
J. Gray	... 1572

JULY, 1877.

On Mr. Blackham being unseated

A. Mackay	... 1872
W. G. Blackham ...	... 1665
J. Gray	543

FEBRUARY, 1880.

THREE SEATS.

R. Clark	... 2921
R. Burrowes	... 2392
J. McIntyre	... 2329
D. C. Sterry	... 2238
W. G. Blackham ...	... 2181
R. White	... 1815

MARCH, 1880.

On Mr. Clark accepting office as Minister of Mines he was returned unopposed.

JULY, 1880.

THREE SEATS.

R. Clark	... 2488
R. Burrowes	... 2319
J. Quick	... 2288
R. White	... 2238
J. McIntyre	... 2211

AUGUST, 1881.

On Mr. Burrowes accepting office as Minister of Mines he was returned unopposed.

FEBRUARY, 1883.

THREE SEATS.

R. Burrowes	... 2735
R. Clark	... 2703
J. Quick	... 2334
R. White	... 1359
C. Perry	... 1209

MAY, 1883.

On the death of Mr. Clark—

A. Mackay	... 2348
H. R. Williams ...	... 1821

MARCH, 1886.

THREE SEATS.

J. Quick	... 2976
A. S. Bailes	... 2095
R. Burrowes	... 2021
A. Mackay	... 1864
A. Harkness	. . 1420
J. J. Hall	... 776

MARCH, 1889.

TWO SEATS.

R. Burrowes	... 1910
A. Bailes	... 1909
J. Quick	... 1566
J. P. Carolin	... 1825

SOUTH SANDHURST.

ONE SEAT.

MARCH, 1889.

D. C. Sterry...	967
R. O'Neill	640

OLD LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

THE LODDON DISTRICT.

OCTOBER, 1856.—TWO SEATS.

Dr. Owens and Mr. E. Syme returned.

[UNDER THE NEW CONSTITUTION.]

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY.

MANDURANG.

AUGUST, 1859.

TWO SEATS.

Brodie...	765
Carpenter	689
Ganley	133
Owens	77

MAY, 1861.

On Mr. Brodie resigning his seat Mr. Sullivan was returned without opposition, and on accepting office as Minister of Trade and Customs in the following month he was again returned unopposed.

AUGUST, 1861.

TWO SEATS.

J. F. Sullivan...	1240
Dr. Owens	1030
Panton	804
Carpenter	639

JULY, 1863.

On Mr. Sullivan accepting office as Minister of Mines he was returned unopposed.

JULY, 1863.

On the resignation of Dr. Owens

J. J. Casey	884
L. MacPherson	740

NOVEMBER, 1864.

Messrs. Sullivan and Casey returned unopposed.

JANUARY, 1866.

TWO SEATS.

J. F. Sullivan...	1760
J. J. Casey	1637
J. McIntyre	933

FEBRUARY, 1867.

On Mr. Sullivan accepting office as Minister of Railways he was returned unopposed.

FEBRUARY, 1868.

Messrs. Sullivan and Casey returned unopposed, and on accepting office as Ministers of Mines and Justice respectively, again returned unopposed.

FEBRUARY, 1871.

TWO SEATS.

J. J. Casey	1622
T. Moore	1047
W. Gunn	803
C. Yeo...	755

JUNE, 1872.

On accepting office as Minister of Lands Mr. Casey was returned unopposed.

APRIL, 1874.

TWO SEATS.

J. J. Casey	1999
T. Moore	1731
W. Gunn	1044

MAY, 1877.

THREE SEATS.

J. J. Casey	3254
H. R. Williams	2631
T. Moore	2413
W. Tupper	2127
A. E. Moore	1468

FEBRUARY, 1880.

THREE SEATS.

T. Moore	2468
H. R. Williams	2422
J. Fisher	2193
J. J. Casey	2135
Forshaw	2014
H. M'Coll	1741

MANDURANG.—*Continued.*

JULY, 1880.

THREE SEATS.

J. Fisher	2919
H. R. Williams	2887
H. M'Coll	2694
T. Moore	2602
J. M. Highett...	2476
Tupper	2399

AUGUST, 1880.

On Mr. Williams accepting office as Minister of Mines—

Williams	2957
Moore	2696

FEBRUARY, 1883.

THREE SEATS.

T. Moore	2697
H. M'Coll	2203
C. Yeo	1832
H. R. Williams	1727
J. J. Hall	1323
J. Fisher	1319
J. T. Brown	1057
Williamson	968
Crichton	209

MAY, 1885.

On the death of Mr. H. M'Coll—

J. M. Highett	2281
H. R. Williams	1547

MARCH, 1886.

THREE SEATS.

J. H. M'Coll	3623
J. T. Brown	2754
J. M. Highett	2465
T. Moore	2399
C. Yeo...	1690

MARCH, 1889.

ONE SEAT.

J. M. Highett...	448
T. Moore	439
J. Coutts	396
Sutherland	67

EAGLEHAWK.

MARCH, 1889.—ONE SEAT.

H. R. Williams	946
H. Kirkwood	928

GUNBOWER.

MARCH, 1889.—ONE SEAT.

J. H. M'Coll	957
J. T. Brown	845

RAINFALL.

PROMINENT instances of heavy rainfall in Bendigo during the last twenty-six years. The period in each instance is twenty-four hours.

PERIOD.	INCHES.
6th June, 1863	2·12
31st December, 1863	3·5
16th October, 1869	2·35
7th February, 1871	3·22
23rd February, 1871	2·42
24th November, 1871	2·04
10th October, 1875	3·11
13th February, 1877	3·11
16th March, 1878	3·67
23rd April, 1882	3·12
27th and 28th November, 1882	2·61

Below will be found a table showing the annual rainfall in Bendigo since the year 1861. It will be seen that while we have had no year to equal 1870 in rainfall, the driest years were 1881 and 1888.

PERIOD.	INCHES.	PERIOD.	INCHES.
1862 ...	22·28	1877 ...	19·69
1863 ...	25·56	1878 ...	18·92
1864 ..	28·20	1879 ...	16·32
1865 ...	14·59	1880 ...	22·37
1866 ...	17·37	1881 ...	12·90
1867 ..	27·03	1882 ...	21·62
1868 ...	19·62	1883 ...	21·78
1869 ...	16·99	1884 ...	21·80
1870 ...	36·61	1885 ...	20·16
1871 ...	28·12	1886 ...	21·39
1872 ...	25·17	1887 ...	26·25
1873 ...	26·36	1888 ...	12·38
1874 ...	20·50	1889 ...	28·32
1875 ...	22·04	1890 ...	25·10
1876 ...	17·82		

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